

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 219

In Memory
of
Hamp Atkinson

WHEREAS, Family and friends will forever treasure their memories of former state representative Hamp Atkinson of New Boston, who died on July 5, 2016, at the age of 82; and

WHEREAS, Hamp Atkinson was born to Ballard and Sybil Atkinson on December 23, 1933, in the Old Salem community near New Boston; over the course of his working life, he owned a ranch, a farm supply store, and a petroleum business, and he served as a director of the Guaranty Bond Bank; he was a longtime member of Tapp United Methodist Church in New Boston; and

WHEREAS, This distinguished Texan was also one of the leading educators in Bowie County for many years, and he carried his passionate advocacy for education with him into the Texas Legislature, where he represented House District 1 from 1975 to 1983; a member of the Public Education Committee throughout his tenure, he chaired that body during his last two terms and also sat on a number of public education subcommittees, including those on public school finance, the Teacher Retirement System, and budget and oversight; in addition, he served as vice chair of the Ways and Means Committee, and throughout the entirety of his legislative career, he held a seat on the State Preservation Board; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Atkinson was a loving husband to Sue Farris Atkinson, and he delighted in the time he spent with his family, which included his daughters, Amy Barron and her husband, Bryan, and Melinda Black and her husband, Scott, as well as his

stepchildren, Lee Farris and his wife, Melissa, Julie Cherry and her husband, Jim, and Jennifer Newton and her husband, Nick; later in life, he was blessed with nine grandchildren and their spouses, Magan and Clayton Wisdom, Paige and Matt Kiddey, Sara McCarter, Molly Black, Brooks Black, Brody Barron, Lee William Farris, Meredith Farris, and Harrison Newton, and a great-grandson, Lane Wisdom; his first wife, Pat Atkinson, and two daughters, Lisa Lyn Atkinson and Lori McCarter, preceded him in death; and

WHEREAS, A devoted family man and a dedicated public servant, Hamp Atkinson will be deeply missed, but he leaves behind a record of civic engagement that will continue to inspire all those who knew and loved him; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 85th Legislature, hereby pay tribute to the life of the Honorable Hamp Atkinson and extend sincere condolences to his family and friends; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for his family and that when the Texas Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Hamp Atkinson.

Hughes

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 21, 2017, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate