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By:  Springer H.R. No. 1109

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Boots O'Neal of the Four Sixes Ranch in Guthrie was honored as the first recipient of the Ranching Heritage Association Working Cowboy Award on October 13, 2018; and

WHEREAS, The Working Cowboy Award was established to recognize individuals who demonstrate exceptional skill in all aspects of ranch work, who are widely respected in the ranching community, and who have distinguished themselves through their honesty, humility, courage, determination, and optimism; and

WHEREAS, After learning to ride horses during his teenage years in Lefors, Boots O'Neal began his career in 1948 by breaking broncs for the RO Ranch; he went on to work for some of the state's most historic ranches, including the JA, the Matador, the Waggoner, and the Four Sixes, where he has been employed since 1990; at the age of 85, this resilient cowboy enjoys good health and still saddles up every day to help take care of the ranch's cattle; he is renowned for his easygoing personality and has been the subject of numerous magazine and newspaper articles; and

WHEREAS, During a career spanning seven decades, Boots O'Neal has furthered the rich legacy of ranching that is so closely associated with the history of the Lone Star State, and he is indeed deserving of this prestigious honor; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby congratulate Boots O'Neal on his selection as the inaugural recipient of the Ranching Heritage Association Working Cowboy Award and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued success and happiness; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for Mr. O'Neal as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.