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By:  Smith H.R. No. 1211

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The late Billy W. Wilder of Sherman devoted nearly three decades to serving the people of Texas through his distinguished career with the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts; and

WHEREAS, A native of Orangeville, Mr. Wilder demonstrated an aptitude for mathematics and accounting early on, and after graduating from North Texas State College in 1960, he joined the Texas comptroller's office in 1964; he began his career at a Dallas field office before transferring to the Sherman office in 1968; and

WHEREAS, Over the course of his exemplary 28-year tenure as an enforcement officer, Mr. Wilder trained many of his younger coworkers in Sherman and earned their lasting respect and admiration for his patience and expertise; he was likewise well-respected by the business community; for a good portion of his time with the agency, he served under the legendary Texas comptroller Bob Bullock, who made headlines with the renowned "Bullock's Raiders" tax collections; Mr. Wilder retired in 1992; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed Texan also served as a minister in the United Methodist Church for six decades; he was licensed by the church in 1955 and ordained in 1972, and he worked for many years as a circuit minister; after he retired in 2001, he continued to serve as a visitation minister for two congregations in Sherman; and

WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Mr. Wilder enjoyed the love and support of his wife, Patricia Lois Toldan, with whom he shared 43 years, and he took great pride in their children, Dwayne, Hope, Allison, Tim, and Beth; he passed away in 2015, at the age of 82; and

WHEREAS, Billy Wilder's dedication, professionalism, and commitment to excellence greatly benefited his fellow Texans, and he leaves behind a record of public service that will continue to inspire all who were fortunate enough to know him; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby honor the late Billy W. Wilder for his many years of service to the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for his family as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.