

By: Bonnen of Brazoria

H.C.R. No. 144

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The State of Texas lost a much-admired lawmaker and  
2 friend to many with the death of former House Speaker Pro Tempore  
3 D. R. "Tom" Uher of Bay City on March 9, 2019, at the age of 81; and

4 WHEREAS, In 1967, Representative Uher won a special election  
5 to the house on his 30th birthday, December 16; his constituents in  
6 Matagorda, Wharton, and Brazoria Counties would reelect him 17  
7 times, and he served as speaker pro tempore in the 73rd through 77th  
8 Legislatures; over the course of more than three decades in office,  
9 he chaired a number of committees, among them State Affairs and  
10 Redistricting, and he served on many others as well, such as the  
11 Education, Higher Education, and Ways and Means Committees; and

12 WHEREAS, Representative Uher took special pride in the  
13 passage of a bill he authored that allowed MD Anderson Cancer Center  
14 patients access to care without referrals; charming and collegial,  
15 he earned the affection of all his colleagues; he commonly ended  
16 conversations by commending others as "a great American," and he  
17 himself became fondly known as "the Great American"; after leaving  
18 the house in 2003, he continued to share his wisdom and experience  
19 as a mentor to his fellow elected officials, including Speaker  
20 Dennis Bonnen; and

21 WHEREAS, The son of Alfonso A. Uher and May Bittick Uher, Tom  
22 Uher was born in Bay City in 1937, and he grew up with the  
23 companionship of three siblings, Doris, Myrna, and LaVerne; he  
24 completed both his bachelor's degree in business administration and

1 his law degree at The University of Texas and established his own  
2 practice in his hometown; for 55 years, he continued to serve his  
3 clients, relishing the work, and he also enjoyed tending to his  
4 yard, coaching Little League, teaching Bible study at First  
5 Presbyterian Church, and watching football, especially the  
6 Longhorns; and

7 WHEREAS, Representative Uher shared a rewarding marriage of  
8 more than five and a half decades with his wife, Ann Hagaman Uher,  
9 and they welcomed into their family two daughters, Christi and  
10 Catherine, and a son, Robert, as well as two grandsons, Christopher  
11 and the late Noah Carl Uher; and

12 WHEREAS, Through his steadfast dedication to public service,  
13 Tom Uher made a lasting, positive impact in the lives of innumerable  
14 Texans, and his contributions will be remembered for years to come;  
15 now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the 86th Legislature of the State of Texas  
17 hereby pay tribute to the memory of the Honorable D. R. "Tom" Uher  
18 and extend sincere condolences to all who mourn his passing; and, be  
19 it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
21 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
22 Representatives and Senate adjourn this day, they do so in memory of  
23 former House Speaker Pro Tem Tom Uher.