

By: Darby

H.R. No. 721

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Gil Wilson is retiring from the Texas Department of
2 Transportation Rail Division in March 2019, drawing to a close an
3 exemplary career in the railroad industry that has spanned four and
4 a half decades; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Wilson brought more than 27 years of experience
6 in railroading to his tenure with TxDOT; beginning in 1974, he
7 worked his way up through positions of increasing responsibility at
8 the Republic Steel Railroad, Mahoning Valley Railway, and N&T
9 Railway, where he served as general supervisor of maintenance and
10 transportation for 11 years; his numerous accomplishments include
11 testifying as an expert witness at Federal Railroad Administration
12 hearings and serving as a workshop instructor for car repair
13 seminars with the American Association of Railroads; and

14 WHEREAS, In 2001, Mr. Wilson relocated to Texas and joined
15 TxDOT as an assistant rail planner; in his most recent position as
16 rail programs administrator, he has overseen TxDOT rail facilities
17 and operations, played a vital role in state infrastructure
18 inspection and analysis, and contributed to the development of the
19 state rail plan; over the years, he has been instrumental in several
20 rail acquisition and improvement projects and studies throughout
21 Texas, including the development and management of more than \$52
22 million in rehabilitation initiatives on the South Orient Rail
23 Line, which enabled traffic to increase from approximately 2,000
24 carloads per year to more than 38,000 in the course of just eight

1 years; and

2 WHEREAS, Mr. Wilson has received a number of accolades in
3 recognition of his outstanding service; he earned the 2010 Service
4 and Safety State Partner Award from Amtrak, and he was a member of
5 the TxDOT teams that garnered the 2002, 2013, and 2015 President's
6 Transportation Awards for excellence in rail transportation from
7 the American Association of State Highway and Transportation
8 Officials; and

9 WHEREAS, Gil Wilson's dedication, professionalism, and
10 commitment to excellence have greatly benefited his fellow Texans,
11 and he may indeed reflect with pride on a career well spent as he
12 embarks on the next exciting chapter of his life; now, therefore, be
13 it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
15 Legislature hereby congratulate Gil Wilson on his retirement from
16 the Rail Division of the Texas Department of Transportation and
17 extend to him sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
19 prepared for Mr. Wilson as an expression of high regard by the Texas
20 House of Representatives.