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By:  Craddick H.C.R. No. 82

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Frank M. Late, a respected entrepreneur who built a remarkable career in the oil and gas business, is being posthumously inducted into the Petroleum Hall of Fame on April 29, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Based at the Permian Basin Petroleum Museum in Midland, the Petroleum Hall of Fame recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the development of the petroleum industry in the region; and

WHEREAS, Frank Marr Late was born in Johnson, Arkansas, on November 1, 1908, and he went on to attend the University of Arkansas; he began working in automotive sales in the mid-1930s, and through the decades, he became one of the largest automobile dealers in the Southwest; after residing in Claremore, Oklahoma, he moved to San Angelo in 1939 and then to Dallas in 1970; and

WHEREAS, A man of many business interests, Mr. Late helped to found Cactus Drilling in 1944, and he took over as the company's sole owner in 1967; under his leadership, Cactus Drilling expanded internationally, and when he sold the firm in 1980, it was the largest land-based contract drilling company in the country; during the 1960s, Mr. Late cofounded Cardinal Chemical, which was later acquired by Dowell Chemical; he also purchased and expanded Republic Supply International, which he sold in 2000; in addition to his ventures in oil field services, oil and gas exploration, and automotive sales, he was involved in banking, soft drink bottling, and ranching; Mr. Late passed away on November 27, 2002, at the age of 94; and

WHEREAS, Through his tremendous vision, energy, and business acumen, Frank Late achieved a rare degree of success in the dynamic oil and gas industry, and he is indeed a worthy addition to the Petroleum Hall of Fame; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 87th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby honor the memory of Frank M. Late on the occasion of his induction into the Petroleum Hall of Fame and pay tribute to him for his many accomplishments; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for Mr. Late's family as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives and Senate.