H.R. No. 1272

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, August 10, 2021, marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of the late Marvin Harold Zindler, a well-known Houston television news personality and consumer advocate; and

WHEREAS, The son of Austrian Jewish immigrants, Abe and Udith Zindler, Marvin Zindler was born in the Bayou City in 1921; he attended Tarleton State University and worked for the Bellaire Police Department and his family's clothing store before beginning his career in media; after breaking into radio in 1943 as a part-time DJ and spot news reporter for KATL, he created and hosted a half-hour crime news program; from 1950 to 1954, he was a reporter and cameraman for Southwest Film Production Company, which produced the evening news for KPRC, and in 1962, he began a 10-year stint tracking down fugitives as a Harris County sheriff's deputy; he also established a consumer fraud division; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Zindler was hired by KTRK in 1973, and his exposé of the Chicken Ranch brothel in La Grange led to its closure; the case inspired the musical and movie *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*; an early consumer champion and action reporter, he campaigned against scams, medical abuses, and, in his Friday "Rat and Roach Reports," unsanitary eateries; those popular segments featured his famed "Slime in the Ice Machine" rundown on sites with unhygienic ice production; and

WHEREAS, Deeply compassionate, Mr. Zindler united prominent people from many realms in a team called Marvin's Angels to help those in need at home and abroad, from suffering children and innocents caught in the legal system to captives in foreign lands; during his final illness, he continued to file consumer reports from his hospital bed until just days before his death on July 29, 2007, at the age of 85; and

WHEREAS, A devoted family man, Mr. Zindler shared a fulfilling marriage of 56 years with his wife, Gertrude, before her passing in 1997; they were the parents of five children, Helen, Marvin, Donny, Mark, and Danny; and

WHEREAS, Marvin Zindler informed and enlightened his viewers as a pioneering consumer advocate, and his commitment to fighting indifference and injustice made a positive difference in the lives of innumerable people in Texas and beyond; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Marvin Zindler on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of his birth; 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.

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1272 was adopted by the House on May 23, 2021, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House