

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1           WHEREAS, The citizens of Texas lost an admired public servant  
2 with the passing of former state representative John Clifford Otto  
3 on August 1, 2020, at the age of 71; and

4           WHEREAS, Born to John and Susan Otto in Dayton on October 14,  
5 1948, John Otto grew up with two brothers, Calvin and Glenn, and two  
6 sisters, Susan and Danita; while completing his bachelor's degree  
7 in accounting at Texas A&M University, he rose to become head drum  
8 major of the Fightin' Texas Aggie Band; he was commissioned as a  
9 second lieutenant in the U.S. Army and served on active and reserve  
10 duty for eight years; his career as a certified public accountant  
11 included a five-year tenure with Peat, Marwick, Mitchell, and  
12 Company in Houston and 35 years as the owner of a successful CPA  
13 practice in Dayton; and

14           WHEREAS, Mr. Otto served his community in many roles,  
15 including as a trustee of the Dayton Independent School District  
16 and as a member of the Dayton City Council; in 2004, he won election  
17 to the Texas House of Representatives and quickly made his mark; he  
18 was named Rookie of the Year by *Texas Monthly* and received similar  
19 recognition from his peers; over the course of six terms in office,  
20 he was appointed to numerous committees; his financial acumen made  
21 him particularly effective as chair of the House Appropriations  
22 Committee and the Select Committees on Fiscal Stability and  
23 Property Tax Relief and Appraisal Reform, as well as vice chair of  
24 the Ways and Means Committee and member of the Legislative Audit

1 Committee; in addition, he served on the Legislative Budget Board;  
2 among myriad accolades, he received a Fighter for Free Enterprise  
3 Award from the Texas Association of Business, and he was selected  
4 for the Legislative Honor Roll by the Texas PTA; and

5 WHEREAS, In 2017, Mr. Otto accepted his dream job as  
6 assistant vice chancellor and director of local government  
7 relations for The Texas A&M University System; the position allowed  
8 him to champion the interests of his beloved alma mater while  
9 continuing to work with his colleagues in the legislature; in July  
10 2020, in order to acknowledge his ardent support of the Aggie Band,  
11 the system chancellor organized a virtual ceremony with family,  
12 friends, and fellow Aggie legislators to announce the naming of the  
13 drum major's baton in his honor; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Otto married his high school sweetheart, the  
15 former Nancy Whitman, in December 1969; while helping to raise  
16 their two sons, Bryan and Jason, he enthusiastically cheered them  
17 on in sports and ensured they were properly initiated into Aggie  
18 football fandom; he later had the pleasure of seeing the family grow  
19 to include six grandchildren, Brendon, Maddie, Hadley, Bailee,  
20 Emilee, and Malloree; before moving to Bryan-College Station, the  
21 Ottos sang in the choir at First United Methodist Church in Dayton,  
22 where Mr. Otto served as treasurer for more than a quarter century;  
23 and

24 WHEREAS, Although John Otto is deeply missed by those he left  
25 behind, his life stands as an outstanding example of civic  
26 engagement, and his contributions will be remembered and admired in  
27 the years to come; now, therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, That the 87th Legislature of the State of Texas  
2 hereby pay tribute to the memory of the Honorable John Clifford Otto  
3 and extend sincere condolences to his loved ones; and, be it further  
4           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
5 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
6 Representatives and Senate adjourn this day, they do so in memory of  
7 John Otto.

Darby	Ashby
Bailes	Howard
González of El Paso	Allen
Anderson	Bell of Montgomery
Cortez	Craddick
Cyrier	Geren
Guerra	Huberty
Kacal	King of Hemphill
King of Parker	King of Uvalde
Lambert	Murphy
Murr	Paddie
Paul	Price
Rogers	Shine
Smithee	Stephenson
Stucky	Tinderholt
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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 87 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on April 30, 2021.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 87 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the Senate on May 10, 2021.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Date

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Governor