

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Former state senator and representative Carl Allen
2 Parker of Port Arthur passed away on March 22, 2024, at the age of
3 89, bringing a great loss to his family, his friends, and his
4 community; and

5 WHEREAS, A Port Arthur native, Carl Parker was born on
6 August 6, 1934, to Harvey and Juanita Parker, who encouraged him in
7 his educational and career ambitions; setting his sights on
8 becoming an attorney, he attended The University of Texas School of
9 Law; while in his final year at UT, he met the former Beverly
10 Stiegler, with whom he exchanged wedding vows in 1960; the couple
11 shared more than 64 years of marriage, and their cherished family
12 grew to include three children, Valerie, Chris, and Allen, and four
13 grandchildren, Andrew, Emma, Peyton, and Tripp; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Parker served as a judge advocate general in the
15 United States Navy before returning to Port Arthur and joining the
16 law firm of Long and Parker; at that practice, which later became
17 The Parker Law Firm, his specialties included criminal defense,
18 family law, personal injury, and business transactions, and he
19 enjoyed having the opportunity to use his legal expertise for the
20 benefit of his friends, neighbors, and fellow citizens in his
21 hometown; and

22 WHEREAS, In 1962, Mr. Parker was elected to the first of
23 eight terms in the Texas House of Representatives, and he again
24 returned to the statehouse when he won his first bid to the Texas

1 Senate in 1976; he was a champion for working people as well as a
2 staunch proponent of public safety, education, and environmental
3 protection; among a multitude of assignments, he served as chair of
4 the House committees on judicial districts and penitentiaries, and
5 he led the Senate committee on education as chair for five
6 consecutive legislative sessions; when debating fellow
7 legislators, he was always quick with a retort, but he was known to
8 cast aside his differences and join former rivals in enacting
9 measures that he considered worthy; his skill in building consensus
10 made him a highly effective lawmaker, and during the 1991
11 legislative session, he secured the passage of a number of bills,
12 including legislation that provided school funding and that created
13 a new environmental superagency; and

14 WHEREAS, Senator Parker concluded his exceptional 32-year
15 tenure as a state legislator after his sixth term in the Senate in
16 1995, but he continued to volunteer his time with government
17 committees and groups that supported education and economic
18 development; he enjoyed spending his leisure time reading,
19 woodworking, and contributing op-eds to local newspapers, and he
20 authored an autobiography to share his experiences and insights
21 with family and friends; and

22 WHEREAS, Carl Parker dedicated his long legislative career to
23 advocating for his constituents and advancing the common good for
24 the State of Texas, and he leaves behind a legacy of public service
25 that will continue to inspire all those who had the good fortune to
26 know him; now, therefore, be it

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas

H.R. No. 633

1 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of the Honorable Carl
2 Allen Parker and extend deepest sympathy to all those who mourn his
3 passing; 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 adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Carl
7 Parker.

Johnson

H.R. No. 633

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 633 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on April 9, 2025.

Chief Clerk of the House