

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The city of Wichita Falls and the State of Texas have
2 lost an esteemed public servant with the passing of the Honorable
3 John J. Gavin on February 16, 2007, at the age of 86; and

4 WHEREAS, Born on August 23, 1920, in Indianapolis, Indiana,
5 John Gavin attended Notre Dame University and was in his final year
6 of studies there when the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor brought
7 the United States into World War II; Mr. Gavin answered the nation's
8 call to service and joined the "Flying Irish," a group of Notre Dame
9 students who became Naval aviators; he served bravely as a
10 carrier-based fighter pilot during the war and was a member of the
11 Naval Reserve until 1948; and

12 WHEREAS, Following his discharge from active duty, he and his
13 wife, the former Jean Elizabeth Devine, lived in Los Angeles for
14 several years before moving to Texas in 1948; Mr. Gavin was a
15 partner in Wichita Sand and Gravel for 12 years, and in 1960 he took
16 on a new professional challenge by becoming a life insurance
17 underwriter; this began his long and successful career in that
18 industry, and his dedicated service was later honored by the Texas
19 Association of Life Underwriters, who gave him the Texas Leaders
20 Round Table Outstanding Achievement Award; and

21 WHEREAS, Mr. Gavin began his career as a public servant in
22 1962 after being elected the mayor of Wichita Falls; during his two
23 years in that office, he was instrumental in bringing about racial
24 integration in the city's restaurants and theaters; and

1 WHEREAS, In 1980, he once more was elected to public office
2 when the voters of the Wichita Falls area chose him to be their
3 voice in the Texas House of Representatives; he served with
4 distinction from the 67th through 71st legislatures and assumed a
5 number of important roles during his decade in office; highly
6 respected for his professional experience as an underwriter, he was
7 a member of the Insurance Committee throughout his tenure and
8 chaired that committee for three sessions; in addition, he
9 co-chaired a special Insurance Regulation Committee and was a
10 member of the Liability Insurance and Tort Law and Procedure
11 Committee, the Insurance Subcommittee on Budget and Oversight, and
12 the special Texas Catastrophic Property Insurance Pool Committee;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Representative Gavin's wisdom and dedication were
15 also put to use on a number of other house committees, including
16 State Affairs, Intergovernmental Affairs, Teenage Pregnancy, Ways
17 and Means, Higher Education, Election Contests, Business and
18 Commerce, and the Premium Tax Task Force; and

19 WHEREAS, Known as a man of ethics and with a record of
20 achievement that spanned military combat, business success, and
21 political service, John Gavin distinguished himself as a
22 responsible and productive leader whose accomplishments were of
23 great benefit to the city, state, and country that he served so
24 admirably; now, therefore, be it

25 RESOLVED, That the 80th Legislature of the State of Texas
26 hereby pay tribute to the life of John J. Gavin and extend deepest
27 sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife of 64 years, Jean

1 Gavin; to his children, Jean Ohm and her husband, Al, Kathleen Von
2 Buren, Maureen Gavin, Ann Patterson and her husband, Mike, and John
3 Gavin and his wife, Anne; to his 10 grandchildren and four
4 great-grandchildren; to his close friend of 69 years, Tom Foley;
5 and to his other relatives and many friends; and, be it further

6 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
7 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
8 Representatives and Senate adjourn this day, they do so in memory of
9 the Honorable John J. Gavin.

Farabee

Craddick	Gattis	Miles
Allen	Geren	Miller
Alonzo	Giddings	Moreno
Anchia	Gonzales	Morrison
Anderson	Gonzalez Toureilles	Mowery
Aycock	Goolsby	Murphy
Bailey	Guillen	Naishtat
Berman	Haggerty	Noriega
Bohac	Hamilton	O'Day
Bolton	Hancock	Oliveira
Bonnen	Hardcastle	Olivo
Branch	Harless	Orr
Brown of Kaufman	Harper-Brown	Ortiz, Jr.
Brown of Brazos	Hartnett	Otto
Burnam	Heflin	Parker
Callegari	Hernandez	Patrick
Castro	Herrero	Paxton
Chavez	Hilderbran	Pena
Chisum	Hill	Phillips
Christian	Hochberg	Pickett
Cohen	Hodge	Pierson
Coleman	Homer	Pitts
Cook of Navarro	Hopson	Puente
Cook of Colorado	Howard of Fort Bend	Quintanilla
Corte	Howard of Travis	Raymond
Crabb	Hughes	Riddle
Creighton	Isett	Ritter
Crownover	Jackson	Rodriguez
Darby	Jones	Rose
Davis of Harris	Keffer	Smith of Tarrant
Davis of Dallas	King of Parker	Smith of Harris
Delisi	King of Taylor	Smithee
Deshotel	King of Zavala	Solomons
Driver	Kolkhorst	Strama
Dukes	Krusee	Straus
Dunnam	Kuempel	Swinford
Dutton	Latham	Talton
Eiland	Laubenberg	Taylor
Eissler	Leibowitz	Thompson
Elkins	Lucio III	Truitt
England	Macias	Turner
Escobar	Madden	Van Arsdale
Farabee	Mallory Caraway	Vaught
Farias	Martinez	Veasey
Farrar	Martinez Fischer	Villarreal
Flores	McCall	Vo
Flynn	McClendon	West
Frost	McReynolds	Woolley
Gallego	Menendez	Zedler
Garcia	Merritt	Zerwas

David Dewhurst
President of the Senate

Jim Caddick
Speaker of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 114 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on May 18, 2007.

Robert Haney
Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 114 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the Senate on May 18, 2007.

Datsy Spaw
Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: 15 JUN 07
Date

Rick Perry
Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
8 PM O'CLOCK
JUN 15 2007
Roger Williams
Secretary of State