## S.C.R. No. 17

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION WHEREAS. The city of Houston lost a galvani

WHEREAS, The city of Houston lost a galvanizing leader with

3 the passing of former mayor Bob Lanier on December 20, 2014, at the

4 age of 89; and

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5 WHEREAS, Born to Jesse and Sally Lanier on March 10, 1925,

6 Robert Clayton Lanier grew up in Baytown and served as a naval

7 officer during World War II; he attended the University of New

8 Mexico and subsequently earned a law degree from The University of

9 Texas at Austin; though he enjoyed successful careers in law,

10 banking, and real estate, he ultimately found himself drawn to

11 politics and public service; he chaired the Texas Highway

12 Commission from 1983 to 1987 and then led Houston's Metropolitan

13 Transit Authority for a year; and

14 WHEREAS, First elected mayor in 1991, Mr. reelected by an overwhelming majority in 1993 and again in 1995; 15 although the city's adoption of term limits precluded a fourth run 16 for the office, his fierce intelligence, deep knowledge of public 17 policy, and skillful coalition-building allowed him to effect 18 19 far-reaching changes over the course of his six-year tenure; he 20 fulfilled a campaign promise to increase police patrols and reduce crime, and he made great strides in revitalizing the downtown area 21 22 and improving infrastructure in disadvantaged neighborhoods; moreover, he was an unyielding champion of ethnic diversity, and 23

toward the end of his final term, he led a successful campaign to

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- 1 save the city's affirmative action program for minority business
- 2 owners; and
- 3 WHEREAS, After leaving office, Mr. Lanier remained a force in
- 4 Houston politics and civic affairs; he hosted fund-raisers,
- 5 supported charities, and founded the Lanier Public Policy
- 6 Conference at the University of Houston; and
- 7 WHEREAS, Frequently recognized for his outstanding service
- 8 to Houston and to the State of Texas, Mr. Lanier received such
- 9 prestigious accolades as the Hubert Humphrey Civil Rights Award and
- 10 the Ben Taub Humanitarian Award; he was praised by former
- 11 presidents Bill Clinton and George W. Bush, and Texas Monthly
- 12 magazine named him one of the top three Texas mayors of the 20th
- 13 century; and
- WHEREAS, Mr. Lanier married Elizabeth Grant in 1954, and the
- 15 couple became the proud parents of five children; after being
- 16 widowed, Mr. Lanier exchanged wedding vows in 1984 with Elyse Bauer
- 17 and welcomed into his heart and home her two children; and
- WHEREAS, A man of tremendous energy and ability, Bob Lanier
- 19 helped shape the destiny of a great American city through his
- 20 determination to enhance the quality of life for all its residents,
- 21 and his enormous contributions as a public servant and civic leader
- 22 will continue to resonate for years to come; now, therefore, be it
- 23 RESOLVED, That the 84th Legislature of the State of Texas
- 24 hereby pay tribute to the memory of the Honorable Bob Lanier and
- 25 extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife,
- 26 Elyse Lanier; to his children, Robert Clayton Lanier Jr. and his
- 27 wife, Donna, John Frederic Lanier, Elizabeth Lanier Campbell, Susan

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- 1 Holly Lanier, Scott Augustus Lanier, Courtney Lanier Sarofim and
- 2 her husband, Christopher, and Kevin Scott Robins and his wife,
- 3 Sara; to his grandchildren, Robert Clayton Lanier III, Carlton
- 4 Thomas Lanier, Brent Lanier Campbell, Judith Ann Lanier, Mary
- 5 Jessica Lanier, Robert Mitchell Lanier, Gillian Stude Sarofim,
- 6 Louisa Lanier Sarofim, Fayez Shalaby Sarofim II, Eva Elyse Robins,
- 7 and Rhett Ezekiel Robins; and to his other relatives and many
- 8 friends; and, be it further
- 9 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
- 10 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
- 11 Representatives and Senate adjourn this day, they do so in memory of
- 12 Bob Lanier.

Speaker o certify that S.C.R. No. 17 was adopted by the Senate Secretary of the Senate

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I hereby certify that S.C.R. No. 17 was adopted by the House on April 29, 2015.\_\_\_

Approved:

Pre

on February 24, 2015.\_\_

2 Subset

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE 12: 55P-0'CLOCK

Secretary of State