

SENATE JOURNAL

EIGHTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE — THIRD CALLED SESSION

AUSTIN, TEXAS

PROCEEDINGS

SEVENTH DAY

(Thursday, October 14, 2021)

The Senate met at 2:00 p.m. pursuant to adjournment and was called to order by the President.

The roll was called and the following Senators were present: Alvarado, Bettencourt, Birdwell, Blanco, Buckingham, Campbell, Creighton, Eckhardt, Gutierrez, Hall, Hancock, Hinojosa, Huffman, Hughes, Johnson, Kolkhorst, Lucio, Menéndez, Miles, Nelson, Nichols, Paxton, Perry, Powell, Schwertner, Seliger, Springer, Taylor, West, Whitmire, Zaffirini.

The President announced that a quorum of the Senate was present.

Senator Birdwell offered the invocation as follows:

Father, we humbly come before You today asking You for the same wisdom that Solomon asked that You granted to us for discernment, the right and the wrong, as we serve our constituents. We ask Your blessing upon our state. We ask You to pour Your spirit out upon us. Be with those that are serving in our nation's Armed Forces in harm's way. Keep them safe. We ask Your continued blessings upon our nation. In Christ's name I pray. Amen.

Senator Whitmire moved that the reading of the Journal of the proceedings of the previous day be dispensed with and the Journal be approved as printed.

The motion prevailed without objection.

RESOLUTION SIGNED

The President announced the signing of the following enrolled resolution in the presence of the Senate: **HCR 10**.

SENATE RESOLUTION 49

Senator Zaffirini offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, David W. Slayton is stepping down as administrative director of the Office of Court Administration on August 31, 2021, drawing to a close a distinguished career serving the people of Texas; and

WHEREAS, Since May, 2012, David Slayton has served at the helm of OCA and as executive director of the Texas Judicial Council, the policy-making body for the state judiciary; representing the judiciary before the Texas Legislature, the

governor, and other executive branch agencies, Mr. Slayton has played a vital role in increasing access to justice for countless Texans, including the state's most vulnerable residents; his efforts have proven especially crucial in helping courts navigate such crises as natural disasters, the COVID-19 pandemic, and cyberattacks; and

WHEREAS, From 2004 to 2012 Mr. Slayton worked as director of court administration for the Lubbock County Administrative Office of the Courts; he previously served as court services supervisor for the U.S. District Court in Dallas, as an intake and docket clerk for the U.S. District Court in Lubbock, and as district court coordinator for the 99th Judicial District Court in Lubbock County, where he began his career in 1998 as a deputy district clerk; he is set to begin his new job as vice president of court consulting services for the National Center for State Courts (NCSC); and

WHEREAS, Widely respected by his peers, Mr. Slayton co-chairs the Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA) and the Joint Technology Committee of the National Association for Court Management (NACM), which he previously served as president; he received the Distinguished Service Award from NCSC and the Mary C. McQueen Award from the Conference of Chief Justices, COSCA, NACM, and the National Association for Presiding Judges and Court Executive Officers; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Slayton holds a political science degree from Texas Tech University and a master's degree in public administration from Troy University; and

WHEREAS, David Slayton's skill, dedication, and professionalism have greatly benefited his fellow citizens, and he may reflect with pride on his many contributions and accomplishments as he embarks on the next exciting chapter of his career; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 87th Texas Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby commend and thank David W. Slayton for his outstanding service as administrative director of the Office of Court Administration and extend to him sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for Mr. Slayton as an expression of high regard by the Texas Senate.

ZAFFIRINI	HUFFMAN
CREIGHTON	PERRY
ECKHARDT	SPRINGER

SR 49 was again read.

The resolution was previously adopted on Monday, October 4, 2021.

GUESTS PRESENTED

Senator Zaffirini, joined by Senators Huffman, Hinojosa, Eckhardt, and Perry, was recognized and introduced to the Senate David W. Slayton, joined by his mother, Mary Slayton, and father, Mike Slayton.

The Senate welcomed its guests.

SENATE RESOLUTION 58

Senator Perry offered the following resolution:

SR 58, In memory of John Gordon Wilkerson Jr.

The resolution was read.

On motion of Senator Perry, **SR 58** was adopted by a rising vote of the Senate.

In honor of the memory of John Gordon Wilkerson Jr., the text of the resolution is printed at the end of today's *Senate Journal*.

SENATE RESOLUTION 68

Senator Hall offered the following resolution:

SR 68, In memory of Kenneth Duncan Dickson.

HALL	POWELL
CAMPBELL	SPRINGER
KOLKHORST	

The resolution was read.

On motion of Senator Hall, **SR 68** was adopted by a rising vote of the Senate.

In honor of the memory of Kenneth Duncan Dickson, the text of the resolution is printed at the end of today's *Senate Journal*.

SENATE RESOLUTION 59

Senator Perry offered the following resolution:

SR 59, In memory of Joshua Blake Bartlett.

The resolution was read.

On motion of Senator Perry, **SR 59** was adopted by a rising vote of the Senate.

In honor of the memory of Joshua Blake Bartlett, the text of the resolution is printed at the end of today's *Senate Journal*.

Senator Perry was recognized and introduced to the Senate family and friends of Joshua Blake Bartlett including his wife, Rebecca Bartlett; sons, Zachary Bartlett, Christian Bartlett, Logan Ryon Bartlett, and David Hagood; his parents, Mike Bartlett and Freda Bartlett; and Lubbock County Sheriff Kelly Rowe.

The Senate welcomed its guests and extended its sympathy.

(Senator Creighton in Chair)

SENATE RESOLUTION 46

Senator Blanco offered the following resolution:

SR 46, In memory of Diana Natalicio.

The resolution was read.

On motion of Senator Blanco, **SR 46** was adopted by a rising vote of the Senate.

In honor of the memory of Diana Natalicio, the text of the resolution is printed at the end of today's *Senate Journal*.

(President in Chair)**SENATE RESOLUTION 76**

Senator Hinojosa offered the following resolution:

SR 76, In memory of Frances Tarlton "Sissy" Farenthold.

HINOJOSA	JOHNSON	WEST
ALVARADO	LUCIO	WHITMIRE
BLANCO	MENÉNDEZ	ZAFFIRINI
ECKHARDT	MILES	
GUTIERREZ	POWELL	

The resolution was read.

On motion of Senator Hinojosa, **SR 76** was adopted by a rising vote of the Senate.

In honor of the memory of Frances Tarlton "Sissy" Farenthold, the text of the resolution is printed at the end of today's *Senate Journal*.

SENATE RESOLUTION 56

Senator Buckingham offered the following resolution:

SR 56, Recognizing November 14 to 20, 2021, as Thyroid Eye Disease Awareness Week.

The resolution was again read.

The resolution was previously adopted on Friday, October 8, 2021.

CO-AUTHORS OF SENATE RESOLUTION 68

On motion of Senator Hall, Senators Blanco, Buckingham, and Perry will be shown as Co-authors of **SR 68**.

RESOLUTIONS OF RECOGNITION

The following resolutions were adopted by the Senate:

Memorial Resolutions

SR 72 by West, In memory of Marilyn Antoinette Walton.

SR 73 by Lucio, In memory of Raymundo J. Peña.

SR 79 by Hinojosa and Zaffirini, In memory of Lena Coleman-Wilson.

SR 81 by Hughes, In memory of Carol Dee Baker Meyer.

Congratulatory Resolutions

SR 74 by Zaffirini, Recognizing Sarah Lynn Bergen and John Paul Borrego on the occasion of their marriage.

SR 75 by Zaffirini, Recognizing the Guadalupe Valley Young Marines for their participation in Red Ribbon Week.

SR 77 by Lucio, Recognizing the Valley Initiative for Development and Advancement on the occasion of its 25th anniversary.

SR 78 by Lucio, Recognizing Salvador J. Castillo for his contributions to the Cameron County Veterans Services Office.

SR 80 by Hughes, Recognizing St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church on the occasion of its 150th anniversary.

SR 82 by Hughes, Recognizing August Pahmiyer on the occasion of his 100th birthday.

MOTION TO RECESS

On motion of Senator Zaffirini and by unanimous consent, the Senate at 3:16 p.m. agreed to recess, pending the receipt of committee reports, until 11:00 a.m. tomorrow.

The Senate further agreed that when the Senate finally adjourns, it do so in memory of John Gordon Wilkerson Jr., Kenneth Duncan Dickson, Joshua Blake Bartlett, Diana Natalicio, and Frances Tarlton "Sissy" Farenthold.

RECESS

Pursuant to a previously adopted motion, the Senate at 10:00 a.m. Friday, October 15, 2021, recessed until 11:00 a.m. today.

APPENDIX

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The following committee reports were received by the Secretary of the Senate in the order listed:

October 14, 2021

HIGHER EDUCATION — **CSSB 52**

STATE AFFAIRS — **SB 51**

October 15, 2021

REDISTRICTING — **HB 1**

RESOLUTIONS ENROLLED

October 14, 2021

SR 46, SR 58, SR 59, SR 68, SR 72, SR 73, SR 74, SR 75, SR 76, SR 77, SR 78, SR 79, SR 80, SR 81, SR 82

In Memory
of
John Gordon Wilkerson Jr.
Senate Resolution 58

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas joins the citizens of Lubbock in mourning the loss of John Gordon Wilkerson Jr., who died August 28, 2021, at the age of 86; and

WHEREAS, John Wilkerson was born on December 18, 1934, and was a lifelong resident of Lubbock; he graduated from Lubbock High School, and he went on to earn a degree from Baylor University; and

WHEREAS, John enjoyed a long career as chairman of Wilkerson Storage Company and head of Wilkerson Properties, and under his leadership, the companies expanded to serve a broad array of clients in the commercial and industrial logistics and real estate industries; he remained loyal to Baylor University throughout his life, and his distinguished service to the institution included 18 years as a member of the Baylor University Board of Regents and two years as chairman of the board; and

WHEREAS, John contributed greatly to the growth and development of Lubbock through his many civic leadership roles, and he gave selflessly of his time and resources to bring comfort to the vulnerable and downtrodden; he was honored to serve as a deacon at the First Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, A man who cherished family above all things, John shared 63 years of marriage with his devoted wife, Ruth, and together they raised four children by loving Christian example; he and Ruth were blessed with eight grandchildren, and they and their two great-grandchildren were a source of much pride and joy for him; and

WHEREAS, John Wilkerson was admired by his friends and loved ones for his integrity, his generosity, and his devotion to his hometown community; he was beloved by many, and he will long be remembered with respect and admiration by all who were privileged to share in his life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 87th Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of John Gordon Wilkerson Jr.; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for his family as an expression of deepest sympathy from the Texas Senate and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of John Wilkerson.

PERRY

In Memory
of
Kenneth Duncan Dickson
Senate Resolution 68

WHEREAS, The life of a highly respected civic leader drew to a close with the passing of Kenneth Duncan Dickson of Rockwall on August 19, 2021, at the age of 82; and

WHEREAS, The son of Kenneth Taylor Dickson and Trixie Duncan Dickson, Ken Dickson was born on December 29, 1938, and grew up in Dallas; he was part of the final class to attend Pleasant Grove High School, graduated from W. W. Samuell High School in 1957 and earned a bachelor's degree in business/agriculture from East Texas State University; answering his nation's call to duty, he served in the U.S. Army and with the 49th Armored Division of the Army National Guard; and

WHEREAS, Active with local politics for more than 40 years, Mr. Dickson was a founding member of the Rockwall County Republican Men's Club, serving two terms as president and continuing as a member of the executive committee until his death; furthermore, he was a precinct chair, an election judge, and a delegate to Republican state and local conventions; he worked in support of numerous election campaigns, most notable those of U.S. Representative Ralph M. Hall, and he received the Ralph M. Hall Chairman's Award from the Rockwall GOP for a lifetime of service in support of the Republican Party; in recognition of Mr. Dickson's achievements, a street was named after him in Rockwall, where he served on the city council for four years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dickson was a founding member and president of the North American Tuli Association and a co-owner of the Tuli cattle breed magazine, and he cherished the time he spent caring for his own cattle; in the 1980s, he began working in the oil and gas industry, and at the age of 82, he had no plans to retire; since 2005, he had served as a member of the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission; and

WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Mr. Dickson enjoyed the love and support of his wife of 44 years, Judy; he was the devoted father of two children, Craig and Jason, and he treasured his four grandchildren; a committed Christian, he was a valued congregant of Lakepointe Church, where he was a longtime volunteer at the Connection Center; and

WHEREAS, Admired for his strong faith, his magnanimous personality, his love of State and Country, and his dedication to his fellow citizens, Ken Dickson lived a caring, authentic and purposeful life, and he leaves behind a record of service that his loved ones can remember with pride; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 87th Texas Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the memory of Kenneth Duncan Dickson and extend heartfelt sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife, Judith Dion Dickson; to his sons, Kenneth Craig Dickson and his wife Lynne, and Jason Keith Dickson and his wife Lauren; to his grandchildren, Abigail Peavey and husband Rafe, and Macy, Cohen, and Savannah Dickson; and to his many other relatives and friends; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for his family and that when the Texas Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Ken Dickson.

HALL
CAMPBELL
KOLKHORST
POWELL
SPRINGER

In Memory
of
Joshua Blake Bartlett
Senate Resolution 59

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas honors and commemorates the life of Sergeant Joshua Blake Bartlett, who died in the line of duty on July 15, 2021, at the age of 38; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed veteran and law enforcement officer was noted for his courageous life of service to his county, community, and country; and

WHEREAS, Josh Bartlett graduated from a homeschool program in Pensacola, Florida, in 2000; he joined the United States Army and served two tours in Iraq as an infantryman with the 10th Mountain Division; he was wounded in combat and received a number of medals for his outstanding military service; he earned an associate's degree in criminal justice from South Plains College in 2012, and he graduated from the South Plains Police Academy that same year; he earned a bachelor of applied arts and sciences degree from Midwestern State University in 2015; and

WHEREAS, A dedicated public servant, Josh served for nine years with the Lubbock County Sheriff's Office, where he led officers as the assistant commander of the SWAT team; he managed the complex responsibilities of a law enforcement professional with courage and conviction, and he made the ultimate sacrifice when he was killed in the line of duty during a shootout on a street in Levelland; and

WHEREAS, Josh Bartlett shared 18 years of marriage with his cherished wife, Rebecca, and they were blessed with three children; their oldest son, Zachary, their middle son, Christian, and their youngest son, Logan, will carry on their father's love of mead-making, music, and baseball; and

WHEREAS, Esteemed by his colleagues in the sheriff's office, respected by members of the community, and beloved by friends and loved ones, Josh Bartlett inspired many through his bravery and his lifelong devotion to his fellow citizens; he leaves behind memories that will long be treasured by all who were privileged to share in his life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 87th Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Sergeant Joshua Blake Bartlett; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for his family as an expression of deepest sympathy from the Texas Senate and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Josh Bartlett.

PERRY

In Memory
of
Diana Natalicio
Senate Resolution 46

WHEREAS, An exemplary life dedicated to educational opportunity for all has drawn to a close with the death of The University of Texas at El Paso president emerita Dr. Diana Natalicio on September 24, 2021, at the age of 82; and

WHEREAS, Born in St. Louis on August 25, 1939, Diana Natalicio received her bachelor's degree in Spanish from Saint Louis University and her master's degree in Portuguese and doctorate in linguistics from The University of Texas at Austin; she joined UTEP as an assistant professor of linguistics in 1971, and after serving as chair of the modern languages department, dean of liberal arts, and vice president for academic affairs, she became the 10th president of the university on February 11, 1988, and the first woman to hold the office; and

WHEREAS, Over the course of her extraordinary 31-year tenure as president, Dr. Natalicio helped raise UTEP enrollment from nearly 15,000 to more than 25,000 students, and she helped increase the population of Mexican American students to 80 percent of the student body; under her dynamic leadership, the school's annual budget increased from \$65 million to almost \$450 million, and she oversaw a tenfold increase in research spending; the school also increased the number of its doctoral programs from one in 1988 to 22 in 2019, and that same year, UTEP was named a top-tier R1 doctoral research university by the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education; Dr. Natalicio retired in August 2019; and

WHEREAS, A world-renowned leader in her profession, Dr. Natalicio was appointed by President George H. W. Bush to the Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans and by President Bill Clinton to the National Science Board, which she served for 12 years, including three terms as vice chair; she also sat on the boards of the Hispanic Scholarship Fund, The Rockefeller Foundation, the American Council on Education, the National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering, the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities, and the U.S.-Mexico Foundation for Science, among many others; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Natalicio's numerous honors included the Conquistador Award from the City of El Paso, the Academic Leadership Award from Carnegie Corporation of New York, the Orden Mexicana del águila Azteca from the president of Mexico, the TIAA-CREF Theodore M. Hesburgh Award for Leadership Excellence, the Harold W. McGraw, Jr. Prize in Education, and induction into the Texas Women's Hall of Fame; in 2017, *Fortune* magazine named her one of the World's 50

Greatest Leaders, and in 2016, she was included in *Time* magazine's list of the 100 Most Influential People; she received honorary doctorates from universities around the world; and

WHEREAS, Diana Natalicio earned the respect and admiration of all who knew her for her vision, her dedication, and her commitment to a high-quality education for every American, and she leaves behind a legacy that will resonate in El Paso and beyond for years to come; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 87th Texas Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life and achievements of Dr. Diana Natalicio and extend sincere condolences to her family and to her many friends and colleagues; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for her family and that when the Texas Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Dr. Diana Natalicio.

BLANCO

In Memory
of
Frances Tarlton "Sissy" Farenthold
Senate Resolution 76

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas honors and commemorates the life of Frances Tarlton "Sissy" Farenthold, who died September 26, 2021, at the age of 94; and

WHEREAS, A legendary activist, educator, and leader for social justice, Sissy Farenthold was born in Corpus Christi on October 2, 1926; she attended Corpus Christi High School and graduated from The Hockaday School; she went on to earn a degree from Vassar College at the age of 19 and a degree from The University of Texas School of Law at the age of 22; and

WHEREAS, Sissy began a long career in public service and civil rights advocacy by accepting a number of appointments to various humanitarian service organizations and commissions; she served as director of Nueces County Legal Aid, and in 1968, she was elected as the only woman to serve in the Texas House of Representatives; she gained widespread support for her sponsorship of the Texas Equal Rights Amendment and for her tireless pursuit of justice during the investigation of the Sharpstown Scandal; and

WHEREAS, Sissy gained national recognition when she was tapped as a potential vice presidential running mate for George McGovern at the 1972 Democratic National Convention and was the first woman whose nomination for the position was brought to a floor vote; she continued a path of trailblazing leadership in her roles as the first chair of the National Women's Political Caucus and as the first woman president of Wells College; she served as a professor at the Thurgood Marshall School of Law, and she taught one of the nation's first classes on sex-based discrimination as a professor at the University of Houston; and

WHEREAS, An esteemed figure in international activism, Sissy was a member of the Helsinki Watch Committee Board of Directors, and she helped lead protests against nuclear proliferation and against apartheid in South Africa; she played a key role in the Third United Nations Conference for Women, and she participated in peace-keeping missions throughout Central America, Asia, and the Middle East; and

WHEREAS, Sissy gave generously of her time and resources to charitable and cultural organizations; the Frances Tarlton "Sissy" Farenthold Endowed Lecture Series in Peace, Social Justice, and Human Rights is presented each year by the Rapoport Center and the Rothko Chapel to honor and reflect on her 60 years of activism and humanitarian service; and

WHEREAS, Sissy married George Edward Farenthold in 1950, and they were blessed with five children; her three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren were a source of pride and joy for her; and

WHEREAS, A truly beloved Texan, Sissy Farenthold was a tireless voice for the vulnerable and underserved, and she was a source of strength to others through her compassion and her work to bring about equal justice for all; she leaves behind a legacy of service that will continue to inspire citizens long into the future; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 87th Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Frances Tarlton Farenthold; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for her family as an expression of deepest sympathy from the Texas Senate and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Sissy Farenthold.

HINOJOSA	JOHNSON	WEST
ALVARADO	LUCIO	WHITMIRE
BLANCO	MENÉNDEZ	ZAFFIRINI
ECKHARDT	MILES	
GUTIERREZ	POWELL	

