

House Resolution 542

By: Representative Lane of the 167th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring and celebrating the 87th birthday of Mr. Willie Roscoe Smith; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Willie Roscoe Smith was born on March 3, 1922, and this year he
4 celebrates the distinct honor of his 87th birthday; and

5 WHEREAS, upon the passing of his father when he was in seventh grade, Mr. Smith had to
6 drop out of school to get a job to help support his family; and

7 WHEREAS, in 1942, he joined the United States army to serve as a guardian of this nation's
8 freedom and liberty with the 3746th Quartermaster Truck Company, a special unit formed
9 by General MacArthur during the Pacific War; and

10 WHEREAS, during his brave and devoted service with the army, Mr. Smith drove supply
11 trucks from a port in Sydney, Australia, to a secret airfield located in the jungles of New
12 Guinea and participated in the occupation of the Philippines; and

13 WHEREAS, a talented athlete, Mr. Smith also represented the army in Australia as a fast
14 pitch pitcher on their softball team; and

15 WHEREAS, upon his return to the United States after the war, Mr. Smith worked as a pipe
16 insulator, a trade he thrived in for the next 33 years; and

17 WHEREAS, in 1947, Mr. Smith married Nora H. Smith, and during their ten-year marriage,
18 the couple was blessed with three sons, Russell, Daniel, and Terry, all of whom have
19 followed in their proud father's footsteps, serving their country in uniform; and

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Smith married the late Polly E. Smith in 1963 and became the stepfather
21 of three remarkable boys, Dean, Mike, and Keith; and

22 WHEREAS, a devoted family man, Mr. Smith enjoys spending his free time with his sons
23 and their families, including his ten grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren; and

24 WHEREAS, he is a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation for
25 integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness, and by the example he has made of his life and
26 the great service he has given to this country, he makes this world a better place in which to
27 live, and it is only fitting and proper that he be appropriately recognized during this very
28 special and memorable time of his life.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
30 the members of this body join in commending Mr. Willie Roscoe Smith on the occasion of
31 his 87th birthday and wishing him many more years of happiness.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
33 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. Willie Roscoe Smith.