

By: Craddick

H.C.R. No. 102

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, For more than half a century, James Fuller has
2 dedicated himself to the advancement of education and civil rights
3 in West Texas through his work as an educator, administrator, and
4 member of the Midland school board; and

5 WHEREAS, A native of San Angelo, Mr. Fuller received his
6 early education in segregated schools, and after serving in the
7 U.S. Marine Corps, he earned an associate's degree from San Angelo
8 College, a bachelor's degree from North Texas State University, and
9 a master's degree from Texas Tech University; and

10 WHEREAS, Over the course of his exemplary 52-year career,
11 Mr. Fuller has been a champion for equality of opportunity and fair
12 access to education; he taught for the Lubbock Independent School
13 District and for Midland College, where he was an English professor
14 for more than four decades; he also served the college as
15 coordinator of the Professional Development and Teaching and
16 Learning Center, director of the Campus Writing Lab, and assistant
17 director of Developmental Studies; and

18 WHEREAS, In 1988, Mr. Fuller was elected to the board of
19 trustees of Midland ISD, and he served for 33 years, becoming the
20 longest-tenured Black elected official in the city's history; he
21 has been active as well with the Federation of Citizens United to
22 Serve, Habitat for Humanity, Leadership Midland, the Midland
23 African American Roots Historical/Cultural Arts Council, the
24 Midland African American Chamber of Entrepreneurs, and the NAACP;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, Mr. Fuller's numerous awards include the Good
3 Samaritan Award for Outstanding Community Service, an honorary life
4 membership in the National PTA, the Community Service Award of the
5 Midland chapter of the Links, Inc., the Premier Citizen Award from
6 the Negro Business and Professional Women's Club of Midland, and
7 the Community Service Award from the Midland branch of the NAACP,
8 among others; and

9 WHEREAS, A certified lay preacher, Mr. Fuller has been the
10 pastor of the Visionary Hollowell United Methodist Church, a
11 delegate to the UMC Northwest Texas Annual Conference, and an
12 officer of St. Mark's United Methodist Church; throughout his life,
13 he has worked alongside his wife of nearly 60 years, Robbyne Hocker
14 Fuller, Midland's first licensed Black real estate agent, and
15 together they have championed African American art, culture, and
16 business; and

17 WHEREAS, James Fuller's dedication, drive, and passion for
18 justice have earned him the lasting respect and admiration of the
19 citizens of Midland, and he may indeed reflect with pride on his
20 outstanding record of achievement; now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the 87th Legislature of the State of Texas
22 hereby commend James Fuller for his decades of service to the city
23 of Midland and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued
24 success and happiness; and, be it further

25 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
26 prepared for Mr. Fuller as an expression of high regard by the Texas
27 House of Representatives and Senate.