

By: Hughes

S.R. No. 11

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Dr. Lawrence B. Harkless is being inducted into the  
2 Prairie View Interscholastic League Coaches Association Hall of  
3 Fame on July 15, 2023, for his achievements in football; and

4           WHEREAS, Raised in the Mayflower community in Tatum, Lawrence  
5 Harkless was the signal caller for the 1966 Mayflower High School  
6 football team that advanced to the state final under the guidance of  
7 his father, head coach Algie P. Harkless; completing his high  
8 school career at Tatum High School, he became the first Black  
9 student athlete to play quarterback in East Texas, and he led the  
10 Panthers to a regional championship victory; after attending North  
11 Texas State University, he earned a bachelor's degree and a doctor  
12 of podiatric medicine degree from the California College of  
13 Podiatric Medicine in San Francisco; and

14           WHEREAS, Distinguishing himself over the course of a 30-year  
15 career, Dr. Harkless worked at The University of Texas Health  
16 Science Center at San Antonio, served as a professor in the  
17 Department of Orthopedics at Bexar County Hospital, and was the  
18 founding dean of the Western University of Health Sciences College  
19 of Podiatric Medicine; moreover, he was the interim dean of the  
20 first school of podiatric medicine in the Lone Star State at The  
21 University of Texas Rio Grande Valley; and

22           WHEREAS, Dr. Harkless has received the UT Health San Antonio  
23 Presidential Award for Teaching Excellence and the Outstanding  
24 Educator in Diabetes Award from the American Diabetes Association;

1 in 1995, he was appointed by Governor George W. Bush to the Texas  
2 Diabetes Council; he is a deacon at Second Baptist Church in San  
3 Antonio, and he enjoys the love and support of his wife, Gerry, his  
4 children, Erin and Lawrence, and his grandchildren, Eliana, Zola,  
5 Elijah, Charles, and Ethan; and

6 WHEREAS, Through his accomplishments in football and in the  
7 health field, Dr. Lawrence Harkless has set an outstanding example  
8 to which others may aspire, and he is indeed deserving of this  
9 notable honor; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 88th Texas Legislature, 1st  
11 Called Session, hereby congratulate Dr. Lawrence B. Harkless on his  
12 induction into the Prairie View Interscholastic League Coaches  
13 Association Hall of Fame and extend to him sincere best wishes for  
14 the future; and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
16 prepared for Dr. Harkless as an expression of high regard by the  
17 Texas Senate.