

By: Capelo

H.R. No. 160

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Emmett Sheppard has been named the new president of
2 the Texas AFL-CIO, in which capacity he will oversee the
3 operational and financial activities of the state's leading labor
4 federation and help to ensure its continued existence as a strong
5 voice for Texas workers; and

6 WHEREAS, A native of Groves, Mr. Sheppard began his career
7 with Gulf Oil Corporation, where he became a member of the Oil,
8 Chemical and Atomic Workers Local 4-23; over the years, he held a
9 succession of leadership positions within the union and negotiated
10 several key contracts, developing a keen understanding of issues of
11 central importance to Texas workers; following a three-year term as
12 secretary-treasurer, he was named president of the Sabine Area
13 Central Labor Council, an office he held with distinction until
14 1989, when he became legislative director for the Texas AFL-CIO;
15 his able representation of Texas unions at the local, regional, and
16 statewide levels earned him well-deserved acclaim, and in 1993 he
17 was named to the office of secretary-treasurer, a position he held
18 with great integrity and acumen before assuming the presidency; and

19 WHEREAS, Before embarking on his tenure in labor
20 representation, Mr. Sheppard was an elected official in the city of
21 Groves, where he served as a city councilman for a four-year term
22 and as mayor pro tempore from 1975 to 1977; during the last three
23 decades, he has established himself as a community leader of note,
24 having served on the boards of numerous worthy charitable and civic

1 organizations, including the March of Dimes, the United Way, and
2 Junior Achievement of Jefferson County; and

3 WHEREAS, Many state officials have had the privilege of
4 working with him during his tenure on the Texas Employment
5 Commission Advisory Board and the Texas Workers' Compensation
6 Insurance Facility Governing Committee; Mr. Sheppard, who since
7 1996 has served on the Project SAFE Texas Executive Advisory Board,
8 today plays an instrumental role in the success of such statewide
9 initiatives as the Workers' Assistance Program; and

10 WHEREAS, This distinguished Texan has demonstrated courage
11 and commitment in every aspect of his career as a community leader
12 and labor representative, and through his work he has truly helped
13 to make this state a better place in which to work, live, and raise a
14 family; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
16 Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby commend Emmett Sheppard for
17 his many significant contributions to the Lone Star State and
18 extend to him best wishes for continued success in all his future
19 endeavors; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
21 prepared for Mr. Sheppard as an expression of high regard by the
22 Texas House of Representatives.