

By: McClendon

H.R. No. 209

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The passing of Dr. Juanita George Pierce on August
2 23, 2003, at the age of 90 brought a great loss to the family and
3 friends of this revered educator, and it is indeed fitting that we
4 pay tribute to her life at this time; and

5 WHEREAS, Born October 15, 1912, in Colorado City, Dr. Pierce
6 was raised in Fort Worth and attended I. M. Terrell High School,
7 graduating as valedictorian of the class of 1929; although she had
8 completed her requirements for graduation a year earlier at the age
9 of 15, she stayed on as a volunteer typing and Spanish teacher
10 before pursuing higher education; and

11 WHEREAS, Three years later, this dedicated and motivated
12 woman graduated cum laude from Fisk University in Nashville;
13 shortly thereafter, she married Joseph A. Pierce, who preceded her
14 in death and with whom she shared 36 joyous years; together they
15 taught at Wiley College in Marshall and Atlanta University in
16 Georgia before establishing themselves at Texas Southern
17 University (TSU); and

18 WHEREAS, Dr. Pierce earned master's and doctoral degrees in
19 health and physical education from New York University; she was a
20 member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, an archousa of Sigma Pi Phi
21 Boule, and an inductee into Kappa Delta Pi, the International Honor
22 Society in Education; and

23 WHEREAS, A noted advocate of education for women, she was the
24 founder and longtime head of TSU's Women's Department of Health and

1 Physical Education and was a fixture on the TSU campus for many
2 years; she was a devoted member of St. Philip's Episcopal Church and
3 enjoyed spending time with friends and neighbors and playing bridge
4 with the ladies of the Five O'clock Bridge Club; and

5 WHEREAS, Juanita George Pierce was a woman of integrity,
6 honor, and intelligence, and although she will be missed by all who
7 knew her, her spirit will live on through her legacy of success and
8 through the many individuals whose lives she touched; now,
9 therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
11 Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of
12 Dr. Juanita George Pierce and extend sincere sympathy to the
13 members of her family: to her son and daughter-in-law, Dr. Joseph A.
14 Pierce, Jr., and Aaronetta Hamilton Pierce; to her grandsons,
15 Michael Arthur Pierce and Joseph Aaron Pierce and his wife, Kama
16 Bethel Pierce; to her great-grandchildren, Marco, Jasmine, and
17 Julian Pierce; and to the many other relatives and friends of this
18 esteemed woman; and, be it further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
20 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
21 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Dr. Juanita
22 George Pierce.