

By: Goolsby

H.R. No. 37

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Texas House of Representatives is pleased to
2 honor Jim Burnett of Dallas for his contributions to parents in the
3 Lone Star State; and

4 WHEREAS, This eminent attorney has provided invaluable
5 assistance to couples wishing to start a family and to legislators
6 in the drafting of legislation affecting Texas children; and

7 WHEREAS, A managing partner in the firm of Burnett, Trahan &
8 Midlo, L.L.P., Mr. Burnett is a graduate of Dallas Baptist
9 University and the Texas Wesleyan University School of Law; he
10 began his career in the insurance industry, where he was
11 responsible for negotiating hundreds of claims, and went on to form
12 his own law firm; and

13 WHEREAS, Over the years, Mr. Burnett has been the recipient
14 of a host of well-deserved accolades, including recognition as one
15 of the best lawyers under 40 in Dallas, as listed in *D Magazine*, and
16 selection as one of the six best lawyers in Addison/North Dallas by
17 the *North Dallas Business Journal*; and

18 WHEREAS, In 1999, Mr. Burnett and his wife, Bellienda, became
19 the proud parents of three beautiful children, two of whom were
20 carried to term by a gestational surrogate mother; after his life
21 was profoundly affected by this life-giving process, Mr. Burnett
22 added a surrogacy agency to his civil litigation law practice to aid
23 other couples considering the option; and

24 WHEREAS, A nationally recognized authority in his field, Mr.

1 Burnett was the first attorney to handle surrogacy arrangements in
2 Texas courts, and he was an active advisor regarding the state's
3 adoption of the Uniform Parentage Act regarding gestational
4 agreements; and

5 WHEREAS, Jim Burnett's determined efforts to keep Texas law
6 attuned to the needs of today's rapidly changing society have
7 greatly enhanced the lives of countless Texans, and he is indeed
8 deserving of special recognition; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
10 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby honor Jim Burnett for his
11 contributions to the citizens of Texas as an authority on surrogacy
12 law matters and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued
13 success and happiness; and, be it further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
15 prepared for Mr. Burnett as an expression of high regard by the
16 Texas House of Representatives.