

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 34

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas takes pleasure in recognizing Bill Batson on the special occasion of his 40th birthday on September 6, 2003; and

WHEREAS, Bill Batson was born September 6, 1963, between the time of the famous March on Washington on August 28 and the infamous bombing of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church, and his life has been shaped by the soaring hope and the unspeakable horror of those events; and

WHEREAS, Bill plans to celebrate his birthday with his friends on September 27, 2003, in Prospect Park in Brooklyn, New York; he has asked that instead of gifts, contributions be made to an organization that is close to his heart, the American Civil Rights Education Services, Incorporated; the organization's goal is to teach high school students about the civil rights movement and the many sacrifices made by a few for the benefit of many; and

WHEREAS, Students in the organization's program take a journey through history to learn of the struggles and sacrifices others have made; they meet the surviving members of the Little Rock Nine, the family of Medgar Evers, Martin Luther King III, and many community leaders who are dedicated to enshrining the lessons of the civil rights movement into the consciousness of all citizens and into the curriculums of public schools; and

WHEREAS, The lives of these young people are forever changed by their studies; fortified with the skills necessary to engage in nonviolent protest, they go forward to accept both the obligations and the rewards of citizenship; and

WHEREAS, Bill Batson accepts the challenges of the fifth decade of his life by continuing to give to others and to support and promote the education of the young people of our country today; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby commend Bill Batson for his dedication to American Civil Rights Education Services, Incorporated, and extend to him best wishes for an outstanding 40th birthday celebration; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for him as a memento of this special occasion.

Ellis

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on September 22, 2003.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate