

By: Lewis

H.C.R. No. 15

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Residents of Fort Worth lost a beloved friend,
2 neighbor, and pillar of the community with the passing of Dorothy
3 Ruth Thompson on April 23, 2004, at the age of 80; and

4 WHEREAS, Mrs. Thompson was a vigorous champion of
5 African-American voting rights and an ardent supporter of the
6 political process throughout her life; in the 1940s, she worked the
7 poll tax in Fort Worth, but later fought to have it overturned in
8 the hopes of eliminating yet another voting barrier; and

9 WHEREAS, This notable civic leader is credited with prompting
10 her husband, former Texas State Representative Garfield Thompson,
11 to serve his fellow citizens in state government; however, her
12 encouragement did not end with family, as she took her message to
13 the people, urging friends and neighbors to exercise their
14 democratic right to vote; and

15 WHEREAS, Mrs. Thompson was active in a host of worthy
16 organizations, including the Community Action Agency, the
17 Democratic Women's Club, and the League of Women Voters; moreover,
18 she was a founding member of the Precinct Worker's Council and
19 worked to establish a mobile dental clinic to serve area children;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, Though she will be missed by all who knew and loved
22 her, Dorothy Thompson has left a legacy for family and friends to
23 embrace and continue to support, and her memory will remain for many
24 years to come in the thoughts, words, and deeds of those individuals

1 who shared her life; now, therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature of the State of Texas,
3 4th Called Session, hereby pay special tribute to the life of
4 Dorothy Ruth Thompson and extend deepest sympathy to her family: to
5 her husband, the Honorable Garfield Thompson; to her daughters,
6 Willie Ruth Jones, Fannie Gibson, Ruby Grant, and Ida Bridgewater;
7 to her son, Ernest Thompson; to her five grandchildren and
8 great-granddaughter; and to the other relatives and many friends of
9 this remarkable woman; and, be it further

10 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
11 prepared for the members of her family and that when the Texas House
12 of Representatives and Senate adjourn this day, they do so in memory
13 of Dorothy Ruth Thompson.