

By: Morrison

H.R. No. 327

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Dr. John M. Richardson has received the Golden Deeds  
2 Award from the Exchange Club of Fort Worth in recognition of his  
3 many accomplishments for children's causes; and

4           WHEREAS, Born and raised in Fort Worth, Dr. Richardson has  
5 ministered to the children of his hometown for decades; for nearly  
6 three decades, he was the attending physician of Edna Gladney Home  
7 for Adoption where he aided in more than 9,000 adoptions; now, at  
8 the age of 73, this dedicated pediatrician continues to tend to the  
9 youngest members of his community; and

10           WHEREAS, In addition to his medical practice, Dr. Richardson  
11 worked closely with organizations that focus on the needs of  
12 children; he is the founder of the WARM Place, a grief counseling  
13 center specifically for children, and he helped in the inception of  
14 the Key School, a facility for children and adults with  
15 disabilities; and

16           WHEREAS, Dr. Richardson was also the major force behind the  
17 creation of the Baby Moses Project, a visionary effort directed  
18 towards enacting legislation throughout the country that allows  
19 parents to leave newborns in safe locations such as hospitals,  
20 police stations, and firehouses without fear of arrest for  
21 abandonment; his support and advocacy helped to rally Texas  
22 lawmakers to pass the first Baby Moses law in the country in 1999,  
23 and, since that time, more than 40 other states have followed in  
24 writing similar laws; to date, this law has saved the lives of 18

1 newborns in the State of Texas alone; and

2           WHEREAS, This luminary of the Fort Worth medical community  
3 has been awarded numerous honors, including the Brotherhood Award  
4 of Christians and Jews, the Gladney Leadership Hall of Fame, the  
5 Tarrant County Medical Society Humanitarian Award, the Texas Health  
6 Resources Community Service by a Physician Award, and the  
7 Congressional Angels in Adoption Award; and

8           WHEREAS, Fittingly described by one of his admirers as "a man  
9 of action and passion," Dr. Richardson has been driven throughout  
10 his life to champion the welfare of children, and he is indeed  
11 deserving of our highest praise; now, therefore, be it

12           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas  
13 Legislature, 4th Called Session, hereby congratulate Dr. John M.  
14 Richardson on receiving the Golden Deeds Award and commend him for  
15 his dedicated care and compassion for generations of children; and,  
16 be it further

17           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
18 prepared for Dr. Richardson as an expression of high regard by the  
19 Texas House of Representatives.