

By: Eissler

H.C.R. No. 45

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Arthur K. Smith, chancellor of the University of
2 Houston (UH) System and president of the UH main campus, is retiring
3 effective September 2, 2003; and

4 WHEREAS, Since assuming his dual position on April 1, 1997,
5 Dr. Smith has ably guided the UH system and main campus through a
6 period of impressive development; advances include the merger of
7 the system and main campus administrations, the implementation of
8 new strategic planning, budgeting, and computing systems, the
9 planning and construction of major new building projects on all
10 four campuses and in Sugar Land, and dramatic growth in grant
11 funding for research and in student enrollment and diversity; and

12 WHEREAS, Under Dr. Smith's skilled leadership, the UH main
13 campus has achieved record student enrollment, together with higher
14 student retention and graduation rates and improved academic
15 performance; increased grant funding is moving the school closer to
16 its goal of attaining recognition as a top-tier research
17 university, and one of the most extensive construction and
18 renovation campaigns in the school's 76-year history is currently
19 underway; and

20 WHEREAS, Before becoming the first individual to hold the
21 combined offices of UH chancellor and president, Dr. Smith served
22 for six years as president of the University of Utah, which has
23 named him president emeritus; he has also served at the State
24 University of New York at Binghamton and at the University of South

1 Carolina, holding the posts of graduate dean, chief research
2 officer, chief finance and business officer, and chief academic
3 officer; and

4 WHEREAS, A graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and former navy
5 aviator, Dr. Smith earned a Ph.D. in government at Cornell
6 University, focusing on Latin American studies, comparative
7 politics, and international politics; and

8 WHEREAS, After stepping down from his present offices, Dr.
9 Smith will receive an at-large appointment as University Professor
10 at the UH main campus; in addition to resuming his academic work and
11 other interests, he is looking forward to spending more time with
12 his wife, June, their 3 children, and 11 grandchildren; and

13 WHEREAS, The UH System and UH main campus have gained
14 immeasurably from Dr. Smith's incisive leadership, deep
15 experience, and passionate commitment to the mission of these
16 institutions, and it is indeed a pleasure to honor him at this time;
17 now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature of the State of Texas
19 hereby congratulate Dr. Arthur K. Smith and his wife, June, on the
20 occasion of his retirement as chancellor of the University of
21 Houston System and president of the University of Houston and
22 extend to them sincere best wishes for this next chapter in their
23 lives; and, be it further

24 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
25 prepared for Dr. and Mrs. Smith as an expression of high regard by
26 the Texas House of Representatives and Senate.