

By: Dukes

H.R. No. 142

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Dr. Exalton and Wilhelmina Delco Activity Center
2 in Northeast Austin, a facility of the Austin Independent School
3 District (AISD), is being dedicated in honor of two of the city's
4 most distinguished civic leaders; and

5 WHEREAS, For more than 30 years, Dr. Exalton Delco and his
6 wife, the Honorable Wilhelmina Delco, have given unstintingly of
7 their time, talents, and energies in such vital arenas as
8 education, the arts, civic endeavors, and public service; and

9 WHEREAS, A highly regarded professor of biology and college
10 administrator, Dr. Delco has served during his impressive career as
11 department head at Texas Southern University and as vice president
12 of academic affairs at both Huston-Tillotson College and Austin
13 Community College (ACC), and as special assistant to the president
14 at The University of Texas at Austin; further, he has chaired
15 advisory committees of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating
16 Board, assisted the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools as
17 an accrediting team member, and served as an advisor to the
18 presidents of both ACC and The University of Texas at Austin; and

19 WHEREAS, His civic leadership has benefited a host of local
20 groups and institutions, including the Leadership Austin Advisory
21 Council, LBJ Science Academy Board, Austin-Travis County Mental
22 Health/Mental Retardation Center, and Austin Symphony Orchestra;
23 the recipient of numerous accolades, he has been listed in *American*
24 *Men of Science*, *Who's Who in American Education*, and *Who's Who in*

1 *American College and University Administration*; and

2 WHEREAS, Mrs. Delco's involvement with Parent-Teacher
3 Association activities, her initial foray into community service,
4 was followed by her election in 1968 to the AISD Board of Trustees,
5 a victory that marked the first time an African American had been
6 elected to public office in the Capital City; she subsequently
7 served as a founding member of the ACC Board of Trustees and
8 currently chairs the Huston-Tillotson College Board of Trustees;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, In 1974, Mrs. Delco became the first African
11 American elected at large from Travis County to the Texas House of
12 Representatives; during her 10 terms in office, she served on more
13 than 20 committees, chaired the house higher education committee,
14 and in 1991, became the first woman appointed speaker pro tempore;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, This esteemed individual has been accorded a number
17 of honors, including the AISD Black Heritage Award, the American
18 Association of Community Colleges' 1991 National Leadership Award,
19 and induction into the Texas Women's Hall of Fame; moreover, she has
20 received honorary doctoral degrees from 10 colleges and
21 universities; and

22 WHEREAS, Longtime partners in marriage as well as community
23 service, the Delcos serve as inspiring role models for their family
24 and many admirers as they continue to keep busy schedules; both are
25 adjunct professors for the Community College Leadership Program at
26 The University of Texas at Austin and participate on many boards and
27 committees; and

1 WHEREAS, Dr. and Mrs. Delco have demonstrated the utmost
2 commitment to enhancing the quality of life of their fellow Texans,
3 and it is most appropriate that they be honored for their
4 immeasurable contributions to the people of Austin and the Lone
5 Star State; now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
7 Legislature hereby commemorate the dedication of the Dr. Exalton
8 and Wilhelmina Delco Activity Center and extend heartfelt best
9 wishes to Dr. and Mrs. Delco for continued success and fulfillment;
10 and, be it further

11 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
12 prepared for Dr. and Mrs. Delco as an expression of high regard by
13 the Texas House of Representatives.