

By: Olivo

H.R. No. 540

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, For nearly four decades, the A. Philip Randolph
2 Institute (APRI) has been committed to bettering the quality of
3 life for working Americans; and

4 WHEREAS, APRI was founded in 1965 by A. Philip Randolph, a
5 prominent labor leader and founder of the modern civil rights
6 movement, and Bayard Rustin, a civil rights and labor activist who
7 was instrumental in organizing the 1963 March on Washington for
8 Jobs and Freedom; and

9 WHEREAS, Today, APRI members participate in some 150 chapters
10 in 36 states to achieve the organization's mission of racial
11 equality and economic justice; in furtherance of its goals, APRI
12 works through the democratic process locally and nationally to keep
13 the focus on social, economic, labor, and political issues; and

14 WHEREAS, The organization's black labor alliance encourages
15 community support for the trade union movement and promotes
16 awareness of the needs and concerns of African Americans; this
17 alliance was active in the successful effort to win passage of the
18 Voting Rights Act in 1965 and renewal and strengthening of that act
19 in 1982; and

20 WHEREAS, In 2003, Clara Caldwell, a Texan and longtime trade
21 union leader, assumed the presidency of APRI; she follows Norman
22 Hill, who served as executive director under the two founders and as
23 president from 1980 until Mrs. Caldwell's elevation to the post;
24 also helping to guide APRI is Leon Lynch, chairman of the board; and

1 WHEREAS, APRI continues to pursue the dream of a society
2 where the civil rights of all are vigilantly protected and where
3 every member has access to health care, employment, and a decent
4 standard of living; in striving to make these concerns part of the
5 national agenda, it does an enormous service to the residents of
6 this state and country; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
8 Legislature hereby honor the A. Philip Randolph Institute for its
9 unwavering dedication to social and economic justice for all
10 Americans and extend to all those associated with this vital
11 organization best wishes for success in their future endeavors;
12 and, be it further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
14 prepared for the A. Philip Randolph Institute as an expression of
15 high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.