

By: Dutton

H.R. No. 560

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The passing of Dr. Gideon Lamar Sanders, Sr., of
2 Houston on February 26, 2003, has deeply saddened the family and
3 many friends of this esteemed educator and musician; and

4 WHEREAS, Born on September 24, 1926, to Eddie and Effie
5 Sanders, he grew up in a loving home where his grandparents,
6 affectionately known as "Mama Gilder" and "Papa George," helped
7 guide his maturation into an exceptional young man; and

8 WHEREAS, An alumnus of Phillis Wheatley High School and Texas
9 Southern University, from which he earned bachelor's and master's
10 degrees, he received a doctorate of sacred music from Mount Hope
11 Bible College; further, he was awarded an honorary degree of
12 business education from Erma Hughes Business College; and

13 WHEREAS, Dr. Sanders served his country with distinction as a
14 member of the armed forces during World War II and received a
15 surgical technician certificate with honors from Brooke General
16 Hospital; and

17 WHEREAS, Over the course of his impressive career as an
18 educator and administrator, Dr. Sanders left a legacy of excellence
19 at Houston's Phillis Wheatley High School, Cullen Junior High
20 School, and Pershing Middle School; and

21 WHEREAS, Dr. Sanders shared his unwavering faith with others
22 throughout his lifetime through his words and music and as a role
23 model of Christian virtues; he directed the music program and
24 served the congregation as a deacon at Fifth Ward Missionary

1 Baptist Church, was director of music at the Fifth Ward Brotherhood
2 Convention, served as Brotherhood Union president, organized the
3 Women's Uplift program, and participated with the Independent
4 Missionary Baptist General Association; and

5 WHEREAS, Moreover, this richly talented individual directed
6 national, state, and local choirs for the National Baptist
7 Convention of America, wrote and directed *Old Ship of Zion* with the
8 KYOK Koral-Aires, and organized the Famous Knights and Ladies Club,
9 The Controllers and Mademoiselles; and

10 WHEREAS, A past president of the Houston/Harris County
11 Retired Teachers Association and the Texas State Retired Teachers
12 Association, his numerous professional and civic affiliations
13 included Phi Delta Kappa Fraternity, Burnett's Star Chapter 266,
14 Order of the Eastern Star, and Herman E. Rochelle American Legion
15 Post 827; and

16 WHEREAS, On May 8, 1952, Dr. Sanders exchanged wedding vows
17 with Clementine Dianne Henson; the couple enjoyed a half century of
18 marriage and were blessed with a fine family that today includes
19 three children and seven grandchildren; and

20 WHEREAS, Though Dr. Sanders will be deeply missed, the memory
21 of his devotion to his fellowman and dedication to his profession
22 will long warm the hearts of all those who were privileged to know
23 him; now, therefore, be it

24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
25 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Dr. Gideon Lamar
26 Sanders, Sr., and extend sincere sympathy to his wife, Clementine
27 Dianne Sanders; to his children, Effie Juanita Wilkerson, Sharon

1 Kay Bennett, and Gideon Lamar Sanders, Jr.; to his sons-in-law and
2 daughter-in-law, Daryl Wilkerson, James Bennett, and Jackie
3 Sanders; to his grandchildren; and to all those who mourn the
4 passing of this beloved man; and, be it further

5 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
6 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
7 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Dr. Gideon
8 Lamar Sanders, Sr.