

By: Davis of Dallas

H.R. No. 830

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, After nearly three decades of journalistic  
2 integrity and achievement, Norma Adams-Wade retired from *The Dallas*  
3 *Morning News* on December 31, 2002; and

4           WHEREAS, Her dream of becoming a writer was conceived in the  
5 fourth grade, when a local reporter, Julia Scott Reed, visited her  
6 class and instilled the goal to become a journalist in a bright and  
7 serious young girl; and

8           WHEREAS, Ms. Adams-Wade's dedication and hard work resulted  
9 in her graduation from The University of Texas at Austin, and her  
10 dreams came to fruition in 1974 when she became the first full-time  
11 black reporter on staff for *The Dallas Morning News*; and

12           WHEREAS, Gender and ethnic stereotypes did not daunt this  
13 bold, barrier-breaching woman as she dispelled doubts from within  
14 her company and the community at large with her disciplined and  
15 honest accounts of racial issues and views of the black community;  
16 and

17           WHEREAS, The substantial writing talents of Ms. Adams-Wade  
18 were drawn on to cover subjects as diverse as health, housing,  
19 education, and human interest features; her investigative work  
20 exposed mismanagement in public housing in the 1970s, for which she  
21 received the Joe Dealey Publisher's Award, and she proudly led the  
22 paper's first comprehensive coverage of Black History Month in  
23 February 1985; and

24           WHEREAS, A cofounder of the National Association of Black

1 Journalists, which now has approximately 3,000 members, Ms.  
2 Adams-Wade also founded the association's five-state regional  
3 chapter and served as its director for more than two years; and

4 WHEREAS, Widely recognized for her notable community  
5 contributions, Ms. Adams-Wade received the Dallas-Fort Worth  
6 Association of Black Communicators' Lifetime Achievement Award and  
7 the NAACP Dallas Chapter's Juanita Craft Award for excellence and  
8 community service in journalism among her many honors; and

9 WHEREAS, Since her retirement, Ms. Adams-Wade has not  
10 completely deprived Texans of her insightful opinions and keen  
11 observations, as she continues to write a weekly column for the  
12 paper; and

13 WHEREAS, Norma Adams-Wade has made valuable contributions  
14 during her distinguished career as a skilled reporter who opened  
15 the doors of opportunity for those who would follow in her  
16 footsteps; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas  
18 Legislature hereby honor Norma Adams-Wade for her outstanding  
19 contributions to the field of journalism and extend to her sincere  
20 best wishes for a happy and rewarding retirement; and, be it further

21 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
22 prepared for Ms. Adams-Wade as an expression of high regard by the  
23 Texas House of Representatives.