

By: Deshotel

H.R. No. 1046

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Princess Hopson of Beaumont has received the Whitney  
2 M. Young Jr. Service Award from the Three Rivers Council, Boy Scouts  
3 of America, for her exemplary commitment to her community; and

4           WHEREAS, Following in the footsteps of her parents, whose  
5 legacy of service had a lasting and positive effect on their  
6 daughter as well as on their fellow citizens, Mrs. Hopson  
7 demonstrates that family attribute as she promotes life-enhancing  
8 affiliations, particularly with scouting and church; and

9           WHEREAS, Mrs. Hopson's father, the Reverend Charles Graham,  
10 established Graham Congregational Church, which became an anchor  
11 of African-American life in Beaumont and continues to be his  
12 daughter's house of worship today and a source of spiritual and  
13 practical assistance for many in the community; moreover, Reverend  
14 Graham founded Barnwell Community Center, which included a soup  
15 kitchen and garden, the Beaumont Negro Goodwill Council, a branch  
16 of the YMCA, which later became what is now the L. L. Melton YMCA,  
17 and the first African-American newspaper in Southeast Texas; and

18           WHEREAS, Mrs. Hopson grew up feeling that she was a part of  
19 Boy Scout Troop 24, which was founded in 1931 by her father as the  
20 first local troop established for African Americans; she recalls  
21 frequent troop-sponsored family activities held at the church;  
22 during her 23-year tenure as manager of Plymouth Village  
23 Apartments, she ensured that tenants with children received  
24 applications for scouting membership along with their lease

1 information and promoted parental involvement in scouting; and

2 WHEREAS, Today, Mrs. Hopson encourages young men and women,  
3 including members of her own family, to consider community service  
4 and scouting as excellent uses of their time and resources; her  
5 close-knit family includes five children, Rayford L. Hopson,  
6 Madison G. Hopson, Hermann C. Hopson, Ida M. E. Browning, and  
7 Priscilla B. N. Simmons, and she has passed on her avid interest in  
8 scouting to her relatives; and

9 WHEREAS, Princess Hopson's outstanding leadership and  
10 untiring devotion to the community of Beaumont have truly enhanced  
11 the lives of her neighbors and fellow citizens, and she has long  
12 served as an inspiration to all those who have been privileged to  
13 know her; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas  
15 Legislature hereby commend Princess Hopson on being named the  
16 recipient of the Whitney M. Young Jr. Service Award from the Three  
17 Rivers Council, Boy Scouts of America, and extend to her warmest  
18 best wishes for continued success and happiness; and, be it further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
20 prepared for Mrs. Hopson as an expression of high regard by the  
21 Texas House of Representatives.