

By: Dunnam

H.R. No. 1600

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Joe D. Gunn, longtime president of the Texas  
2 AFL-CIO, is retiring in 2003, bringing to a close a lengthy and  
3 distinguished career as a labor leader and activist; and

4 WHEREAS, Employed with Southwestern Bell for 22 years, Mr.  
5 Gunn joined Communications Workers of America (CWA) Local 6222 in  
6 1949 and worked for that local for 11 years; as a member of the CWA  
7 Bargaining Committee, he helped negotiate contracts for the 60,000  
8 CWA members in a five-state region; and

9 WHEREAS, A forceful voice for the labor movement, Mr. Gunn  
10 served as vice president and president of the Harris County AFL-CIO  
11 and vice president of the Texas AFL-CIO; he has served as president  
12 of the statewide organization since his election to that post in  
13 1989; and

14 WHEREAS, In addition to his untiring efforts in behalf of the  
15 AFL-CIO, Mr. Gunn served for seven years as the commissioner  
16 representing workers on the Texas Employment Commission; and

17 WHEREAS, Born June 8, 1931, this outstanding Texan attended  
18 the University of Houston and served with the Marines in the Korean  
19 War; while striving to advance the welfare of working men and women,  
20 he has also given unstintingly of his time and energy in behalf of  
21 other worthy causes, serving on the Sam Houston Council Executive  
22 Board for the Boy Scouts of America, as president of the PTA at Mary  
23 Louise Alcott and Foster Place elementary schools in Houston, as  
24 vice president of the Harris County United Way, and as a board

1 member of United Way; a valued congregant of the United Methodist  
2 Church, he has further served as board member and youth director at  
3 both First United Methodist Church in Madisonville and Foster Place  
4 United Methodist Church in Houston; and

5 WHEREAS, The devoted husband of Dorothy Ann Taylor Gunn, Mr.  
6 Gunn is also the proud father of four children and six foster  
7 children; and

8 WHEREAS, Throughout his life, Joe Gunn has stood as one of the  
9 state's most outspoken, unfaltering advocates for the cause of  
10 social and economic justice, and his steadfast efforts to help  
11 workers achieve greater security and hope for a brighter future  
12 have earned him the affection and esteem of countless Texas  
13 citizens; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas  
15 Legislature hereby congratulate Joe D. Gunn on the occasion of his  
16 retirement as president of the Texas AFL-CIO and extend to him  
17 sincere best wishes for happiness and fulfillment in the years  
18 ahead; and, be it further

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