

By: Wong

H.R. No. 1629

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Rudy Tomjanovich, who has been with the Houston  
2 Rockets organization for 33 years, is retiring from his position as  
3 the team's head coach, and this provides a fitting opportunity to  
4 reflect on his singular contributions to the Rockets franchise; and

5 WHEREAS, A consensus All-American at the University of  
6 Michigan, Mr. Tomjanovich was drafted as the number two overall  
7 selection in the 1970 NBA Draft by the San Diego Rockets, and moved  
8 with the team to Houston for the 1971-1972 season; and

9 WHEREAS, "Rudy T." played for the Rockets for 11 years and was  
10 the team's leading scorer during the 1976-1977 season, which  
11 brought the franchise its first divisional championship; in  
12 addition, he was a five-time NBA All-Star and was the first Rockets  
13 player to have his jersey number retired; and

14 WHEREAS, When his playing days were behind him, this  
15 dedicated individual continued his association with the Rockets as  
16 a scout for two years and moved to the bench in 1983 to become an  
17 assistant coach; and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Tomjanovich's nine years as an assistant made  
19 him the ideal choice for the head coaching job when it became  
20 available in 1992; during his 12 years at the helm, he guided the  
21 Rockets to a 503-397 record and took his team and city to the  
22 pinnacle of basketball success during the 1993-1994 and 1994-1995  
23 seasons, when Houston won back-to-back NBA championships; and

24 WHEREAS, Few players or coaches have given as much to a sports

1 franchise as Coach Tomjanovich has to the Houston Rockets; his name  
2 is forever linked with the team he loves, and it is most appropriate  
3 that he receive special legislative recognition as one of the best  
4 coaches in NBA history; now, therefore, be it

5         RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas  
6 Legislature hereby congratulate Rudy Tomjanovich on his superb  
7 tenure as head coach of the Houston Rockets and extend to him  
8 sincere best wishes as he begins this new chapter in his life; and,  
9 be it further

10         RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
11 prepared for Coach Tomjanovich as an expression of high regard by  
12 the Texas House of Representatives.