

By: Martinez Fischer

H.R. No. 1942

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, David Robinson is playing his final season with the  
2 San Antonio Spurs, completing a storied NBA career that has seen him  
3 rise to the highest level in his chosen sport, but his remarkable  
4 contributions to the city of San Antonio will continue long after  
5 the buzzer sounds to end his final game as a Spur; and

6           WHEREAS, This remarkable gentleman took his already  
7 formidable talents to the Naval Academy after only one year of  
8 basketball at the high school level and quickly became the Middies'  
9 star player; the first pick in the 1987 NBA Draft by the San Antonio  
10 Spurs, he graduated with a degree in mathematics and completed his  
11 final two years of military service before continuing his hardwood  
12 heroics in San Antonio; and

13           WHEREAS, Having suffered through six straight losing  
14 seasons, the Spurs franchise and its fans hoped Robinson would key a  
15 reversal of that trend when he joined the team for the 1989-1990  
16 season; "The Admiral" more than fulfilled those expectations,  
17 leading San Antonio to 35 more wins than it had posted during the  
18 previous campaign, the greatest single-season turnaround in the  
19 history of the NBA, as well as the Midwest Division championship,  
20 while garnering Rookie of the Year status for his efforts; and

21           WHEREAS, A consummate team player, he guided the Spurs to  
22 seven consecutive playoff appearances, a streak that was broken  
23 when injuries kept him from playing in all but six games in the  
24 1996-1997 season; with renewed health and the arrival of Tim Duncan

1 the following year, the team's "twin tower" lineup quickly brought  
2 San Antonio back to its place as one of the NBA's power elite; and

3 WHEREAS, The 2003 NBA Playoffs have been a fitting finale to  
4 the Admiral's NBA career; the Spurs have won postseason series  
5 against the Phoenix Suns, the defending champion Los Angeles  
6 Lakers, and the Dallas Mavericks to claim the Western Conference  
7 championship and advance to the NBA Finals; and

8 WHEREAS, David Robinson's consistent excellence has earned  
9 him two Olympic gold medals, the 1995 NBA most valuable player  
10 award, a place on the NBA's 50 Greatest Players of All Time, and an  
11 NBA championship ring in 1999; a 10-time NBA All-Star, he also won  
12 the IBM Award as the league's best statistical player on five  
13 occasions; and

14 WHEREAS, Affectionately called "Mr. Robinson," this generous  
15 and committed individual has tirelessly supported his  
16 "neighborhood" through the David Robinson Foundation, which  
17 provides aid to programs addressing the physical and spiritual  
18 needs of families; with his wife, Valerie, he donated \$5 million to  
19 help found the Carver Academy, a school serving prekindergarten  
20 through eighth-grade students from low-income families, and they  
21 have continued to provide substantial support to the school since  
22 its creation; and

23 WHEREAS, David Robinson's impact on the San Antonio Spurs and  
24 the NBA has been truly significant, but his contributions off the  
25 floor to the citizens of San Antonio are no less impressive, and it  
26 is indeed appropriate that he receive special legislative  
27 recognition at this time; now, therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas  
2 Legislature hereby congratulate David Robinson on his upcoming  
3 retirement from the National Basketball Association and heartily  
4 commend him for his remarkable athletic achievements, as well as  
5 his significant contributions to the city of San Antonio; and, be it  
6 further

7           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
8 prepared for David Robinson as an expression of high regard by the  
9 Texas House of Representatives.