

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 45

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize the grand opening and dedication of the Justin Dart, Jr. Center for Students with DISABILITIES at the University of Houston; and

WHEREAS, The late Justin Dart, Jr., an alumnus of the University of Houston, was a leading national advocate for the rights of disabled people, and he played a major role in assuring the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990; for his work on behalf of his fellow citizens, President Bill Clinton honored him with the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1998; and

WHEREAS, Many local, state, and national representatives and advocates for Americans with disabilities will join Yoshiko Dart, the widow of Justin Dart, Jr., on January 23, 2003, for the dedication of the center named for a man remembered for his dauntless spirit and noble accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, The University of Houston has become the first major university in Texas to dedicate a new building that is specifically designed to provide for independent accessibility by students with all kinds of disabilities; Braille signs are located throughout, and all building entrances and rooms are equipped with automatic door openers and motion sensors that activate the lighting in each area; in addition, tutoring and conference rooms, counter tops, desks, and all other aspects of the center are designed to facilitate use by physically challenged individuals; and

WHEREAS, The University of Houston deserves great credit for ensuring that all students pursue their studies in physically adequate and comfortable facilities, while also providing a fitting tribute to Justin Dart, Jr.; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby commend the University of Houston for building the Justin Dart, Jr. Center for Students with DISABILITIES; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the school as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Gallegos

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on January 23, 2003.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate