

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 103

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize William-Paul Dunbar Thomas for his years of service to the Texas Senate; and

WHEREAS, William-Paul Thomas was the district office director for Senator Rodney Ellis from 1990 to 2000; and

WHEREAS, William-Paul grew up in the Third Ward in Houston; he served in the United States Air Force as an emergency service specialist in California and returned to Houston to attend Texas Southern University; and

WHEREAS, He was a student leader at Texas Southern University when he met then Houston City Council member Rodney Ellis; that meeting began the political career that would take him to Washington, D.C., to work for United States Representative William Gray III, chairman of the House Budget Committee; and

WHEREAS, When he returned to Houston, Mr. Thomas immersed himself in public service; he served as district director for United States Senator Bob Krueger, and he worked in the two successful campaigns of President Bill Clinton; and

WHEREAS, William-Paul Thomas currently serves as Texas Bureau Chief in Houston for the Wall Street Project, a continuation of Reverend Jesse Jackson's lifework, the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition; the project's mission is to promote inclusion, opportunity, and economic growth for underserved populations; and

WHEREAS, Fourteen years ago, William-Paul married his high school sweetheart, Chanthini, and the couple has two sons, William-Paul II and Ryan Alexander; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Thomas serves on the boards of numerous organizations in Houston, and he is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and the Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church; an exemplary public servant, William-Paul brings honor to himself, his community, and the State of Texas; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby recognize William-Paul Dunbar Thomas for his contributions to the Texas Senate and the citizens of Texas; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for him as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Ellis

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 5, 2003.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate