SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 232

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Andrew R. Melontree on the occasion of the Appreciation Banquet which is being held in his honor on March 1, 2003; and

WHEREAS, Andrew Melontree is a native of Marlin, Texas; he graduated from Texas College in 1952 and from Texas Southern University School of Law in 1974; and

WHEREAS, Andrew is well known for his outstanding work with the Smith County Commissioners Court; he was elected Smith County Commissioner in 1982 and was the first African American to be elected to the court since Reconstruction; he served until December of 2002; and

WHEREAS, A highly respected community leader, Andrew Melontree contributed greatly to the betterment of Smith County during his tenure with the Smith County Commissioners Court; his many accomplishments included securing a major grant for needed sewer and water system improvements and ensuring the provision of state funds to support the retraining of more than 1,200 local Kelly Tire plant workers; and

WHEREAS, In 1992, he organized a committee to monitor existing and proposed plans for the redistricting of voting precincts in Smith County, which resulted in a positive change for previously underrepresented African American citizens; in 2001, he fought for fair minority representation for North Tyler during the redistricting process; and

WHEREAS, In addition to serving as a county commissioner, he was appointed by Governor Mark White to the Texas Southern University Board of Regents, where he served from 1983 to 1989;

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Governor Ann Richards appointed him to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, where he served from 1991 to 1997; and

WHEREAS, An exemplary gentleman, Andrew Melontree has been a source of strength to countless Smith County citizens, and he deserves recognition for his outstanding leadership and his many accomplishments; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby commend Andrew R. Melontree for his dedication and loyal service on behalf of the people of Smith County and the State of Texas and extend best wishes to him for the future; and, be it further

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

West Ellis

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 24, 2003.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate

Member, Texas Senate