

By: Jones of Dallas

H.R. No. 229

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Cleophas Steele, Jr., and Barbara Steele of Dallas
2 have been selected as the recipients of an Outstanding Texan Award
3 in the area of professional service by the Texas Legislative Black
4 Caucus; and

5 WHEREAS, Outstanding Texans are honored for the positive
6 impact they make in their communities, and Judge and Mrs. Steele's
7 contributions have truly enhanced the lives of many individuals in
8 the Dallas area; and

9 WHEREAS, A tireless volunteer, Barbara Steele has
10 distinguished herself as a member of countless religious, civic,
11 and political organizations, including the board of the Dallas Park
12 and Recreation Department and the Cultural Affairs Commission; she
13 currently contributes her time and expertise to the Dallas County
14 Historical Commission, Jack and Jill of America, Black Dallas
15 Remembered, and Greater Dallas Urban League, to name but a few; and

16 WHEREAS, A member of the Dallas Association of Bench and Bar
17 Spouses, Inc., Mrs. Steele established the C. A. W. Clark Legal
18 Clinic, which provides free legal services to underserved members
19 of the community; founded in 1989 at Good Street Baptist Church,
20 where Judge and Mrs. Steele are dedicated worshipers, the clinic
21 provides a venue for African American lawyers to donate their time
22 and expertise to those in need; and

23 WHEREAS, With his wife, Judge Cleo Steele acts as a moderator
24 for the legal clinic, and serves as church attorney at Good Street;

1 he has been a Dallas County justice of the peace since 1976; and

2 WHEREAS, Judge Steele was one of the first African Americans
3 to graduate from Southern Methodist University School of Law, and
4 he was also one of the first attorneys to sign a petition supporting
5 the desegregation of the Dallas Independent School District in the
6 early 1970s; he has served on numerous boards, including DISD, the
7 Dallas Alliance, the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce, and the
8 Dallas Dispute Mediation Service; and

9 WHEREAS, The first married couple to win the prestigious C.
10 B. Bunkley Community Service Award from the J. L. Turner Legal
11 Association, Judge and Mrs. Steele are devoted parents and
12 grandparents; furthermore, they have earned the respect and
13 admiration of family, friends, and colleagues through their
14 exceptional and inspirational service to their community; now,
15 therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
17 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby commend Judge Cleophas
18 Steele, Jr., and Barbara Steele on receiving a 2005 Outstanding
19 Texan Award by the Texas Legislative Black Caucus in the area of
20 professional service and extend to them best wishes for continued
21 success and happiness; and, be it further

22 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
23 prepared for Judge and Mrs. Steele as an expression of high regard
24 by the Texas House of Representatives.