

By: Jones of Dallas

H.R. No. 405

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The 13th Annual C. A. W. Clark Scholarship Banquet
2 is being held on July 23, 2005, in Dallas, and it is a pleasure to
3 recognize this significant event and to pay tribute to its
4 distinguished keynote speaker, United States Congressman John
5 Lewis; and

6 WHEREAS, The C. A. W. Clark Scholarship Program was
7 established in 1992 to provide financial assistance to the young
8 people of Good Street Baptist Church, and since that time more than
9 a hundred high school graduates have benefited from this
10 outstanding endeavor; and

11 WHEREAS, For its 13th annual scholarship banquet, the group
12 is honored by the presence of Congressman Lewis, a man whose storied
13 achievements and legacy of service have clearly demonstrated that
14 he is indeed one of our nation's most notable civil rights
15 advocates; and

16 WHEREAS, Congressman Lewis was born the son of sharecroppers
17 in rural Alabama; inspired as a young man by the Montgomery Bus
18 Boycott and by the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., he became a
19 pioneer in the civil rights movement; and

20 WHEREAS, The chairman and cofounder of the Student Nonviolent
21 Coordinating Committee, he organized sit-ins and voter
22 registration drives, participated in the Freedom Rides, and was a
23 leader in the march across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma,
24 Alabama, an event that helped hasten the passage of the Voting

1 Rights Act of 1965; later named director of the Voter Education
2 Project, he played an integral role in the addition of nearly four
3 million minorities to the voter rolls; and

4 WHEREAS, His crusade to create opportunity, prosperity, and
5 equality within our nation's communities led him to public office;
6 he won election to the Atlanta City Council in 1981, and five years
7 later he was elected to represent his fellow citizens as a member of
8 the U.S. House of Representatives; and

9 WHEREAS, A graduate of Fisk University with a bachelor's
10 degree in religion and philosophy, Congressman Lewis also is a
11 graduate of the American Baptist Theological Seminary; he has
12 earned a host of accolades for his decades of service, including the
13 Golden Plate Award from the Academy of Excellence, the Martin
14 Luther King, Jr., Non-Violent Peace Prize, and the John F. Kennedy
15 Profile in Courage Award for lifetime achievement, to name but a
16 few; and

17 WHEREAS, With sincerity and passion, this esteemed gentleman
18 has championed many worthy causes through the years, and he
19 continues to inspire all who know him with his dedication to making
20 a profound difference in the lives of others; now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
22 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby honor Congressman John
23 Lewis for his many significant contributions to his fellowman and
24 extend best wishes to the C. A. W. Clark Scholarship Program for a
25 successful and rewarding banquet; and, be it further

26 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
27 prepared for Congressman Lewis as an expression of high regard by

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1 the Texas House of Representatives.