

By: Dutton

H.R. No. 444

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, St. Mary of the Purification School was founded in
2 1930 at 3002 Rosedale Street in Houston and served the community
3 with a quality educational program under the administration of
4 Sister Juliana and Father Daley; and

5 WHEREAS, The school closed in 1957 and reopened in 1980 under
6 the administration of Sister Edna Ann Hebert and Father George
7 Artis, and the school's name was changed to St. Mary of the
8 Purification Montessori School, the only African American
9 Montessori school in Texas; and

10 WHEREAS, St. Mary's Montessori School offers a faith-based
11 educational program providing the Houston metropolitan area with an
12 educational opportunity that nurtures the optimal spiritual,
13 intellectual, cultural, and physical development of its students in
14 a collaborative partnership with parents; and

15 WHEREAS, Fully accredited by the Texas Catholic Conference
16 Accreditation Commission and the Texas Education Agency, St. Mary
17 of the Purification Montessori School is part of the archdiocese of
18 Galveston/Houston and is affiliated with the American Montessori
19 Society, the Texas Association of Non-Public Schools, and the
20 National Catholic Education Association of Science Teachers; and

21 WHEREAS, Included among outstanding early alumni of
22 St. Mary's School are former congressman Bill Archer, the late Jim
23 McConn, former mayor of Houston, and Archbishop William J. Levada,
24 who was named Prefect of the Congregation of Faith by Pope Benedict

1 XVI; more recent notable alumni include business entrepreneurs Rene
2 Ferrel, Cynthia Ferrel, Alan Bergeron, and Leslie Mays and
3 community activist Toni McElroy; and

4 WHEREAS, The goal of the Founders Day Celebration is to bring
5 together community leaders, bankers, business owners, politicians,
6 religious leaders, parishioners, teachers, alumni, students, and
7 all others to emphasize the school as a major community asset, and
8 this special day will undoubtedly achieve this worthwhile
9 objective; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
11 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby recognize the St. Mary of
12 the Purification Montessori School Founders Day Celebration on
13 September 10, 2005, and extend best wishes to the many individuals
14 who have contributed to the success of this outstanding school;
15 and, be it further

16 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
17 prepared for St. Mary of the Purification Montessori School as an
18 expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.