

By: Crownover

H.R. No. 139

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The retirement of Dr. Wilkes Berry as associate  
2 provost of Texas Woman's University in Denton on August 31, 2005, is  
3 bringing to a close an outstanding career in higher education; and

4           WHEREAS, Dr. Berry came to TWU in 1981 as a professor of  
5 English, speech, and foreign languages, a position he has continued  
6 to hold; he has also served as dean of the College of Humanities and  
7 Fine Arts, provost of General Divisions, interim vice president for  
8 academic affairs, and associate vice president for academic and  
9 cultural affairs; since assuming his current post in June 2001, he  
10 has worked closely with deans and faculty members on the  
11 university's campuses in Denton, Dallas, and Houston, and in April  
12 2005, he received the Meritorious Service Award, one of the highest  
13 accolades bestowed by the university; and

14           WHEREAS, A 1961 graduate of Abilene Christian University, Dr.  
15 Berry went on to earn an M.A. and a Ph.D. from Rice University,  
16 where he was an Honorary Woodrow Wilson Fellow; in 1964, he joined  
17 the English department faculty at Texas Tech University, eventually  
18 rising to the rank of professor and serving as director of graduate  
19 studies in English and as departmental chair; and

20           WHEREAS, Valued for his skilled leadership, this esteemed  
21 educator formerly served as chair of the Texas Committee for the  
22 Humanities and presently serves as vice chair of the board of  
23 directors of the Texas Medical Center Library in Houston; he has  
24 also maintained an active involvement in various community

1 organizations, contributing his time and talents as president of  
2 the First Texas Council of Camp Fire, Inc., as president of the  
3 Denton Rotary Club and as governor of Rotary District No. 5790, and  
4 as a member of the advisory committee of KERA/KDTN North Texas  
5 Public Broadcasting, Inc.; and

6 WHEREAS, In his leisure time, Dr. Berry enjoys speaking to  
7 literary groups, civic organizations, and study clubs, traveling,  
8 and spending time with his wife, June, and their two daughters and  
9 six grandchildren; and

10 WHEREAS, Texas Woman's University has gained immeasurably  
11 from Dr. Berry's broad experience and deep commitment to higher  
12 education, and his legacy of achievement will long benefit this  
13 outstanding institution; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
15 Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby commend Dr. Wilkes Berry on  
16 the occasion of his retirement as associate provost of Texas  
17 Woman's University and extend to him sincere appreciation for his  
18 exceptional contributions in behalf of his fellow Texans; and, be  
19 it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
21 prepared for Dr. Berry as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
22 House of Representatives.