

By: Dutton

H.R. No. 264

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The Most Reverend Joseph A. Fiorenza, Archbishop of  
2 Galveston-Houston, will be honored on August 27, 2005, by the  
3 Knights of Peter Claver Houston Inter-City Councils and Courts in  
4 recognition of his many years of service in support of the Knights  
5 of Peter Claver and Ladies Auxiliary; and

6           WHEREAS, Archbishop Fiorenza has established an impressive  
7 record of spiritual service during his five decades as a leader in  
8 the Catholic Church; in addition to his lengthy affiliation with  
9 the Knights of Peter Claver, he has also made vital contributions to  
10 the growth and prosperity of the African American Ministry,  
11 Inner-City Catholic Schools, and the Archdiocese of  
12 Galveston-Houston; and

13           WHEREAS, A Beaumont native and a graduate of St. Anthony High  
14 School, Archbishop Fiorenza was ordained at St. Mary's Seminary on  
15 May 29, 1954; he served as assistant pastor of Queen of Peace Church  
16 in Houston from 1954 to 1957 and held leadership roles at many  
17 notable religious institutions in the Houston area over the next 25  
18 years, including St. Augustine Church, St. Benedict Church, and  
19 Assumption Church; and

20           WHEREAS, Named Prelate of Honor to His Holiness, Pope John  
21 Paul II, on December 5, 1973, he was ordained and installed as  
22 Bishop of San Angelo on October 25, 1979; he was installed as Bishop  
23 of Galveston-Houston on February 18, 1985, and was named Archbishop  
24 of Galveston-Houston by Pope John Paul II on December 29, 2004,

1 shortly before the passing of His Holiness in 2005; and

2 WHEREAS, Archbishop Fiorenza lends his time and talents to  
3 numerous organizations and associations: he has been a member of  
4 the administrative board of the National Conference of Catholic  
5 Bishops since 1995 and is a former member of the Bishops' Committee  
6 of Black Catholics; he served as vice president of the National  
7 Conference of Catholic Bishops from 1995 to 1998 and has been  
8 affiliated with the Catholic Near East Welfare Association, the  
9 University of St. Thomas in Houston, and Catholic Charities; and

10 WHEREAS, The Knights of St. Peter Claver and Ladies Auxiliary  
11 are proud to honor this exceptional religious leader as he nears his  
12 well-deserved retirement, and it is a pleasure to join in  
13 commending him for his remarkable tenure of religious service; now,  
14 therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
16 Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby recognize the Most Reverend  
17 Joseph A. Fiorenza, Archbishop of Galveston-Houston, for his five  
18 decades as a leader of the Catholic Church in Texas and extend to  
19 him best wishes for the future; and, be it further

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