

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The accomplished television, film, and stage actor
2 James Avery is visiting the State Capitol on this day, April 14,
3 2005, providing a welcome opportunity to commend him on his
4 successful career; and

5 WHEREAS, A New Jersey native, Mr. Avery began his college
6 career at Virginia State University, but he left school after a year
7 and joined the U.S. Navy; after serving his country in Vietnam, he
8 settled in San Diego, where he wrote poetry and television scripts
9 for PBS, winning an Emmy and a scholarship to the University of
10 California at San Diego; he earned a bachelor's degree in drama and
11 literature at UCSD and later received an honorary doctorate from
12 his earlier alma mater, Virginia State; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Avery is perhaps best known for his role as
14 Philip Banks on the enormously popular NBC television series, *The*
15 *Fresh Prince of Bel-Air*, which ran from 1990 to 1996; his other
16 innumerable credits include recurring roles on executive producer
17 Will Smith's *All of Us* on UPN, Showtime's *Soul Food*, and Lifetime's
18 *The Division*, and he has previously had recurring roles on such
19 popular series as *Murder One*, *L.A. Law*, and *Hill Street Blues*; he
20 has guest-starred on *NYPD Blue*, *That '70s Show*, *C.S.I.*, *The Jamie*
21 *Foxx Show*, and *Dharma and Greg* and has appeared in original movies
22 for the Disney Channel and ABC, among others; his feature film work
23 includes *Third Wish*, *The Brady Bunch Movie*, and *Dancing in*
24 *September*, which was selected as an official entry in the 2001

1 Sundance Film Festival; and

2 WHEREAS, In addition to hosting the critically acclaimed
3 travel and adventure PBS series, *Going Places*, he has lent his
4 distinctive voice to more than a dozen animated features and
5 television shows, including *Aladdin*, *Spider-Man*, and *Dr. Doolittle*
6 2; and

7 WHEREAS, Equally at home in the theater, this classically
8 trained actor most recently impressed critics and audiences alike
9 in a 2004 Los Angeles production of August Wilson's *Ma Rainey's*
10 *Black Bottom*; he has also appeared in numerous Shakespeare plays
11 over the years, including performing the lead role in *Othello* at the
12 Oregon Shakespeare Festival; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Avery also finds time to give back to his
14 community; as the son of a schoolteacher, he recognizes the
15 importance of education and educators and serves as a spokesperson
16 for CalTeach, California's Teacher Recruitment Campaign; just as
17 passionate about supporting our troops at home and abroad, he has
18 made USO visits to Guam and the Marshall Islands in January 2005, to
19 Korea in 2003, and to Kosovo, Macedonia, and Bosnia in 2002; and

20 WHEREAS, In an address to the 1996 graduating class of
21 Virginia State University, James Avery advised the predominantly
22 African American student body that each generation stands on the
23 shoulders of the generation that came before, and while this gifted
24 and compassionate artist continues to excel in his own career, he
25 has clearly supplied strong and sturdy shoulders for the next wave
26 of young African American actors and actresses; now, therefore, be
27 it

H.R. No. 748

1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
2 Legislature hereby extend a hearty Texas welcome to James Avery
3 and, in honor of his visit, recognize April 14, 2005, as James Avery
4 Day at the State Capitol.

Dutton

Craddick	Geren	Menendez
Allen of Harris	Giddings	Merritt
Allen of Dallas	Gonzales	Miller
Alonzo	Gonzalez Toureilles	Moreno of Harris
Anchia	Goodman	Moreno of El Paso
Anderson	Goolsby	Morrison
Bailey	Griggs	Mowery
Baxter	Grusendorf	Naishtat
Berman	Guillen	Nixon
Blake	Haggerty	Noriega
Bohac	Hamilton	Oliveira
Bonnen	Hamric	Olivo
Branch	Hardcastle	Orr
Brown of Kaufman	Harper-Brown	Otto
Brown of Brazos	Hartnett	Paxton
Burnam	Hegar	Pena
Callegari	Herrero	Phillips
Campbell	Hilderbran	Pickett
Casteel	Hill	Pitts
Castro	Hochberg	Puente
Chavez	Hodge	Quintanilla
Chisum	Homer	Raymond
Coleman	Hope	Reyna
Cook of Navarro	Hopson	Riddle
Cook of Colorado	Howard	Ritter
Corte	Hughes	Rodriguez
Crabb	Hunter	Rose
Crownover	Hupp	Seaman
Davis of Harris	Isett	Smith of Tarrant
Davis of Dallas	Jackson	Smith of Harris
Dawson	Jones of Lubbock	Smithee
Delisi	Jones of Dallas	Solis
Denny	Keel	Solomons
Deshotel	Keffer of Dallas	Strama
Driver	Keffer of Eastland	Straus
Dukes	King of Parker	Swinford
Dunnam	King of Zavala	Talton
Dutton	Kolkhorst	Taylor
Edwards	Krusee	Thompson
Eiland	Kuempel	Truitt
Eissler	Laney	Turner
Elkins	Laubenberg	Uresti
Escobar	Leibowitz	Van Arsdale
Farabee	Luna	Veasey
Farrar	Madden	Villarreal
Flores	Martinez	Vo
Flynn	Martinez Fischer	West
Frost	McCall	Wong
Gallego	McClendon	Woolley
Gattis	McReynolds	Zedler

H.R. No. 748

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 748 was adopted by the House on April 14, 2005, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House