

By: Dukes

H.R. No. 1005

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Since its founding in 1938, Jack and Jill of
2 America, Incorporated, has rendered exceptional service to our
3 nation's youth, and the Austin chapter has supported the aims of its
4 parent organization in its dedication to the well-being of the
5 children of the Austin community; and

6 WHEREAS, Jack and Jill was established to provide
7 constructive educational, cultural, civic, recreational, and
8 social activities and programs for African American youths; it was
9 initiated by Marion Stubbs Thomas and a group of 20 like-minded
10 mothers in Philadelphia who were seeking to encourage social and
11 cultural relationships between their children; the idea soon spread
12 to other cities and, by 1946, 10 Jack and Jill groups had been
13 established and members had held their first national meeting; and

14 WHEREAS, The nonprofit organization has expanded to
15 encompass seven regional offices and 240 chapters and is considered
16 one of the premier service organizations in the country; in 1968,
17 the Jack and Jill Foundation was created as a national service
18 project with a mission to fund educational, literary, scientific,
19 and charitable projects that help eliminate some of the obstacles
20 confronting African Americans in our society; and

21 WHEREAS, Chartered in 1953, the Austin Jack and Jill chapter
22 operates under the jurisdiction of the South Central regional
23 office and works within the Austin community through various groups
24 and chapter projects; recent activities have included a food drive

1 collection for the Capital Area Food Bank, participation in the
2 American Cancer Society Relay For Life Event, a nursing home visit,
3 an esteem-building workshop, field trips to area museums, and ACT
4 and SAT review sessions, as well as fishing, bowling, and swim
5 parties; and

6 WHEREAS, The Austin chapter's main fund-raiser, the biennial
7 Beautillion, recognizes the accomplishments of outstanding young
8 African American men in the community and presents these high
9 school seniors and college freshmen much as a debutante ball
10 presents young women; proceeds from the event are awarded in
11 scholarships to the young men, or Beaux, as well as in donations to
12 the United Negro College Fund, Brackenridge Children's Hospital,
13 Austin Children's Museum Minority Scholarship Fund, Faith Home,
14 George Washington Carver Library, and Jack and Jill Foundation;
15 over the years, the chapter has presented more than 300 young
16 African American men who have since gone on to lead successful
17 personal and professional lives; and

18 WHEREAS, With the motto, "Let's work, let's play, let's live
19 together," Jack and Jill of America, along with its Austin chapter,
20 has enhanced the lives of innumerable African American youths
21 through the stimulating family programs and activities that it
22 sponsors as well as its educational and charitable projects; now,
23 therefore, be it

24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
25 Legislature hereby commend Jack and Jill of America, Incorporated,
26 and its Austin chapter for the opportunities that they provide for
27 young Texans and extend to them sincere best wishes for continued

1 success with their important work; and, be it further

2 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
3 prepared for the organization as an expression of high regard by the
4 Texas House of Representatives.