

By: Dutton

H.R. No. 1070

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, George Thomas of Houston has made an indelible
2 impact on public radio as general manager of KTSU-FM, the station of
3 Texas Southern University; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Thomas was appointed to his current position as
5 general manager in 1995, but he first established a relationship
6 with TSU in 1972, when he served as director of special veterans
7 programs; he also distinguished himself as an account executive at
8 KYOK-AM, where he organized the first college internship program
9 between the station and Prairie View A&M University; a former
10 project coordinator with the Department of Labor, Mr. Thomas is
11 also an accomplished jazz musician, writer, and community
12 organizer; and

13 WHEREAS, Under his leadership, KTSU has experienced
14 unprecedented growth, receiving local and national attention for
15 its quality programming and gaining affiliate status from the
16 Corporation for Public Broadcasting and National Public Radio; the
17 station's membership has grown to more than 14,000 individuals, and
18 its budget has increased by more than 100 percent due to ongoing
19 efforts to identify external funding resources; in 2002, the
20 *Houston Press* named KTSU the best radio station in the city, largely
21 due to Mr. Thomas and his dedication to expansion; and

22 WHEREAS, As general manager, this esteemed administrator has
23 implemented professional staff development, provided salaries for
24 on-air personalities, created the first major long-term strategic

1 plan for the station, conducted the first audience research
2 analysis, and created the first African American national public
3 radio challenge with WCLK-FM in Atlanta; and

4 WHEREAS, A true pioneer in public radio, Mr. Thomas has
5 served on the Corporation for Public Broadcasting Future Fund
6 Committee and has been invited to represent African American public
7 radio stations on CPB's advisory panel for fund distribution; he is
8 also a respected member of the African American Public Radio
9 Consortium; and

10 WHEREAS, George Thomas is a consummate professional who has
11 changed the landscape of public broadcasting in Houston, and it is
12 indeed a pleasure to recognize his extraordinary accomplishments;
13 now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
15 Legislature hereby honor George Thomas for his exemplary career in
16 radio and his contributions to KTSU-FM and extend to him sincere
17 best wishes for continued success and achievement; and, be it
18 further

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