

By: Coleman

H.R. No. 1727

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Archbishop Joseph A. Fiorenza of the Archdiocese of
2 Galveston-Houston is serving as Pastor of the Day for the Texas
3 House of Representatives on this day, May 16, 2005; and

4 WHEREAS, The last bishop elevated to archbishop by Pope John
5 Paul II, Archbishop Fiorenza oversees the new Metropolitan
6 Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, which encompasses Austin, Tyler,
7 Beaumont, Victoria, Corpus Christi, and Brownsville; and

8 WHEREAS, A native of Beaumont, Archbishop Fiorenza attended
9 St. Anthony High School and was ordained at St. Mary's Seminary in
10 LaPorte in 1954; he has served as pastor of St. Augustine Church,
11 St. Benedict Church, and Assumption Church in Houston and as vice
12 chancellor and chancellor of the Diocese of Galveston-Houston; on
13 September 4, 1979, the pope named him bishop of San Angelo and
14 several years later appointed him bishop of Galveston-Houston; he
15 was named archbishop on December 29, 2004; and

16 WHEREAS, Archbishop Fiorenza has demonstrated excellence in
17 leadership roles at the local, state, and national levels, serving
18 as a member of the board of the National Conference of Catholic
19 Bishops, the Catholic Near East Welfare Association, and the
20 University of St. Thomas, Houston; a lifelong advocate for social
21 justice and the poor, he is also president of the board of Catholic
22 Charities; and

23 WHEREAS, Catholic Charities provides culturally sensitive
24 social services to those in need and empowers the community through

1 action and education; the organization promotes the principle of
2 human dignity and encourages people to work in behalf of charitable
3 causes and social justice; and

4 WHEREAS, Throughout his years of service, Archbishop
5 Fiorenza has inspired the devoted with his message of faith and
6 goodwill, and we are truly honored to have him with us today; now,
7 therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
9 Legislature hereby express its sincere appreciation to Archbishop
10 Fiorenza for his service as Pastor of the Day and commend him for
11 his notable contributions in behalf of his fellow Texans; and, be it
12 further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
14 prepared for the Most Reverend Joseph A. Fiorenza as an expression
15 of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.