

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 660

WHEREAS, June 30, 2005, marks the retirement of Dr. James Terry as superintendent of the Mesquite Independent School District, drawing to a close an outstanding 42-year career in education; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Terry attended the University of North Texas, the University of Florida, and East Texas State University in Commerce, where he earned his undergraduate, master's, and doctoral degrees; in September 1963, Dr. Terry began his teaching career at French High School in Beaumont, and two years later, he moved to Dallas and taught in the Dallas Independent School District; and

WHEREAS, Joining the Mesquite Independent School District as a math instructor in 1967, Dr. Terry served in numerous administrative positions over the years, including deputy superintendent for 12 years, before assuming the role of superintendent in July 2001; Dr. Terry maintained a highly visible, hands-on approach in leading this district composed of more than 34,000 students, and his leadership style was made readily apparent in one of his first actions as superintendent when he personally visited all 42 school campuses in the district; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Terry, recognized statewide as an exemplary leader in public education, worked for eight years on the University Interscholastic League Legislative Council, serving as chairman in 2001; in addition, he has held numerous other leadership roles, including service on the President's Education Advisory Council for The Texas A&M University System and in the Regent's Initiative for Excellence in Education through Texas A&M University--Commerce; he also was the Region 10 director for the Equity Center, a member of the Executive Council of the East Texas School Study, and president of the North Central Texas Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development; and

WHEREAS, This exemplary educator and administrator was selected by the Association of Texas Professional Educators as the 1999 Administrator of the Year for the State of Texas; Dr. Terry also received the 2004 Golden Deeds for Education Award from Texas A&M University; and

WHEREAS, For nearly four decades, Dr. Terry has served the Mesquite Independent School District with integrity and dedication, earning the lasting respect and admiration of his colleagues, and it is a pleasure to honor him for his exemplary tenure as he embarks on an exciting new chapter in his life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, hereby congratulate Dr. James Terry on the occasion of his retirement as superintendent of the Mesquite Independent School District and extend to him sincere best wishes for future happiness; and, be it further

S.R. No. 660

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for Dr. Terry as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Carona, Deuell

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 21, 2005.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate

Member, Texas Senate