

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 669

In Memory  
of  
Boyd Vance

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas joins the citizens of Austin in mourning the loss of Boyd Vance, who died April 9, 2005, at the age of 47; and

**WHEREAS**, Born in Houston on July 9, 1957, Boyd grew up in Houston's Third Ward, where his interests included church, school, sports, and music; this wide array of activities foreshadowed the path his life would later take; and

**WHEREAS**, Boyd moved to Austin to attend Saint Stephen's Episcopal High School, from which he graduated in 1975; he later attended The University of Texas at Austin and earned his degree in 1983; and

**WHEREAS**, A longtime leader in the Austin arts community, Boyd starred in over 40 plays and musicals, including "Cabaret," "Eubie," and "Ain't Misbehavin"; he was a member of Esther's Follies and appeared in nearly 500 performances of Zachary Scott Theater's "Shear Madness," Austin's longest-running comedy; and

**WHEREAS**, Boyd was a director of remarkable vision whose credits included "A Raisin in the Sun," "Joe Turner's Come and Gone," and a celebrated production of Anna Deveare Smith's documentary "Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992"; and

**WHEREAS**, Boyd was a valued artistic collaborator who shared his talents and energy with such diverse entities as the Tapestry Dance Company, Huston-Tillotson University, the W.H. Passon Historical Society, Ballet Austin, and The University of Texas at Austin; and

**WHEREAS**, Finding there to be an absence of African Americans as producers, directors, and other positions of influence in the Austin theater scene, Boyd sought to make the system more inclusive, and in 1993, he cofounded Pro Arts Collective, an organization aimed at a comprehensive arts plan for African Americans in Central Texas; to further advance that goal, he formed Austin's first African American Arts Technical Resource Center in 2001; and

**WHEREAS**, Boyd's focus beyond the arts included moving to San Francisco for two years to work with the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention; after his return to Austin, he remained active with his work with Austin's annual World AIDS Day events; and

**WHEREAS**, In 2004, Boyd was inducted into the Austin Arts Hall of Fame; in the same year, he received the B. Iden Payne Award for overall artistic achievement from the Austin Circle of Theaters; and

S.R. No. 669

**WHEREAS**, A man of incredible talent, strength, and compassion, Boyd gave generously of himself to others, and his dedication, idealism, and love of music, literature, and dance will not be forgotten by those who knew him; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Boyd Vance: his mother, Hattie Vance; and his brothers, Booker and Clen Del Vance; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the members of his family as an expression of deepest sympathy from the Texas Senate, and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Boyd Vance.

Barrientos

---

President of the Senate

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

---

Secretary of the Senate

---

Member, Texas Senate