

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Joan Higginbotham is contributing to the long-term  
2 progress and prosperity of this great nation as an esteemed member  
3 of the NASA astronaut corps; and

4           WHEREAS, A native of Chicago, Ms. Higginbotham began her  
5 career at the Kennedy Space Center in 1987 after earning a  
6 bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Southern Illinois  
7 University at Carbondale; she quickly proved herself a talented  
8 engineer and an astute leader, and by the end of her nine-year  
9 tenure at the center, she had participated in more than 50 space  
10 shuttle launches; moreover, she obtained master's degrees in  
11 management and space systems from the Florida Institute of  
12 Technology; and

13           WHEREAS, Ms. Higginbotham was selected to join the NASA  
14 astronaut corps in April 1996 and reported to the Johnson Space  
15 Center that same year; since then, she has completed intensive  
16 training and gained vital experience in various branches of the  
17 agency; in December 2006, she completed her first space flight as a  
18 crew member of shuttle mission STS-116, for which she served as  
19 mission specialist; considered one of NASA's most complex missions,  
20 STS-116 entailed rewiring the space station, and for her part,  
21 Mission Specialist Higginbotham successfully operated the robotics  
22 arm and oversaw the transfer of equipment from the shuttle to the  
23 station; and

24           WHEREAS, This highly regarded professional credits much of

1 her success to the encouragement she received early on from her  
2 parents, and today she serves as a motivational speaker for young  
3 people; throughout her career, she has won numerous honors, and she  
4 is the recipient of a prestigious NASA Exceptional Service Medal;  
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Joan Higginbotham is dedicated to advancing  
7 science, technology, and human potential through space exploration  
8 and research, and she indeed merits the admiration of her fellow  
9 citizens for her remarkable service in behalf of this nation; now,  
10 therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas  
12 Legislature hereby commend Joan Higginbotham for her exemplary  
13 service to NASA and extend to her sincere best wishes for continued  
14 success; and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
16 prepared for Ms. Higginbotham as an expression of high regard by the  
17 Texas House of Representatives.

Giddings  
McClendon  
Dukes

Craddick	Gattis	Miles
Allen	Geren	Miller
Alonzo	Giddings	Moreno
Anchia	Gonzales	Morrison
Anderson	Gonzalez Toureilles	Mowery
Aycock	Goolsby	Murphy
Bailey	Guillen	Naishtat
Berman	Haggerty	Noriega
Bohac	Hamilton	O'Day
Bolton	Hancock	Oliveira
Bonnen	Hardcastle	Olivo
Branch	Harless	Orr
Brown of Kaufman	Harper-Brown	Ortiz, Jr.
Brown of Brazos	Hartnett	Otto
Burnam	Heflin	Parker
Callegari	Hernandez	Patrick
Castro	Herrero	Paxton
Chavez	Hilderbran	Pena
Chisum	Hill	Phillips
Christian	Hochberg	Pickett
Cohen	Hodge	Pierson
Coleman	Homer	Pitts
Cook of Navarro	Hopson	Puente
Cook of Colorado	Howard of Fort Bend	Quintanilla
Corte	Howard of Travis	Raymond
Crabb	Hughes	Riddle
Creighton	Isett	Ritter
Crownover	Jackson	Rodriguez
Darby	Jones	Rose
Davis of Harris	Keffer	Smith of Tarrant
Davis of Dallas	King of Parker	Smith of Harris
Delisi	King of Taylor	Smithee
Deshotel	King of Zavala	Solomons
Driver	Kolkhorst	Strama
Dukes	Krusee	Straus
Dunnam	Kuempel	Swinford
Dutton	Latham	Talton
Eiland	Laubenberg	Taylor
Eissler	Leibowitz	Thompson
Elkins	Lucio III	Truitt
England	Macias	Turner
Escobar	Madden	Van Arsdale
Farabee	Mallory Caraway	Vaught
Farias	Martinez	Veasey
Farrar	Martinez Fischer	Villarreal
Flores	McCall	Vo
Flynn	McClendon	West
Frost	McReynolds	Woolley
Gallego	Menendez	Zedler
Garcia	Merritt	Zerwas

H.R. No. 72

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 72 was adopted by the House on  
February 6, 2007, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House