

By: Cohen

H.R. No. 185

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Through her exemplary public service, Eleanor
2 Tinsley has made a positive difference in the lives of countless
3 Houston residents, and on February 1, 2007, the League of Women
4 Voters Education Fund is honoring her accomplishments at its sixth
5 annual Repast with a Pair of Political Pioneers; and

6 WHEREAS, Mrs. Tinsley became active in Houston civic affairs
7 after moving to the city in the early 1950s; especially concerned
8 with issues affecting youth, she served as a member of the school
9 board from 1969 to 1973, during which time her efforts to help
10 schools peacefully integrate set an example for districts
11 throughout the state; moreover, she assisted in the development of
12 a magnet school program that served as a national model and led to
13 the creation of the High School for Performing and Visual Arts and
14 the High School for Health Professions; and

15 WHEREAS, This esteemed woman went on to serve for a time as
16 president of the Texas Council of Child Welfare Boards, in which
17 capacity she successfully advocated for state foster care funding
18 from the legislature; in 1979, she became the first woman elected as
19 member at-large of the Houston City Council, a position she held for
20 more than 15 years; her tenure was characterized by her concern for
21 the people of Houston, and among the ordinances she initiated were
22 those that established the 9-1-1 emergency system, the fluoridation
23 of city water, and the regulation of smoking and billboards; in
24 addition, Mrs. Tinsley founded the SPARK School Park Program, an

1 initiative that forged cooperation between the city, the Houston
2 Parks Board, and the school district to develop 132 public school
3 grounds into neighborhood parks, thereby increasing public park
4 space; and

5 WHEREAS, In recognition of her many good works, Mrs. Tinsley
6 has been inducted into the Texas Women's Hall of Fame, and both a
7 park and an elementary school have been named in her honor; and

8 WHEREAS, Eleanor Tinsley has served the Bayou City and the
9 Lone Star State with dedication and integrity, and it is indeed a
10 pleasure to join in honoring her at this time; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
12 Legislature hereby commend Eleanor Tinsley for her many years of
13 public service and extend to her sincere best wishes for continued
14 success and happiness; and, be it further

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