

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, DeMeco Ryans, linebacker for the NFL's Houston
2 Texans, was named the 2006 Associated Press Defensive Rookie of the
3 Year after receiving 72 percent of the votes cast for this
4 prestigious award; and

5 WHEREAS, Houston's second-round draft pick in 2006, Mr. Ryans
6 played college football at the University of Alabama, where he was
7 named SEC Defensive Player of the Year as a senior and was an
8 Academic All-American; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Ryans finished his first NFL season with a
10 team-leading 156 tackles, including a league-leading 126 solo
11 stops, and he demonstrated amazing durability by playing nearly
12 every down of every game, including a run of 14 straight games
13 without missing a play; moreover, his 156 tackles were the highest
14 total for any rookie in the past two decades; and

15 WHEREAS, This defensive stalwart recorded 13 tackles in his
16 NFL debut and posted double-digit tackles in nine of his team's 16
17 games, leading the team or tying for the team lead in tackles 10
18 times; in his most impressive game of the season, Week 13 at
19 Oakland, Mr. Ryan notched 15 tackles, forced a fumble, recovered a
20 fumble, snagged an interception, defended three passes, recorded a
21 quarterback hurry, and sacked the quarterback for an eight-yard
22 loss; for that effort, he was named AFC Defensive Player of the
23 Week; and

24 WHEREAS, In addition to his receipt of that superlative,

1 Mr. Ryans also garnered the NFL Defensive Rookie of the Month award
2 for his outstanding play in December, when he posted 57 tackles in
3 five games and helped the Texans post a 3-2 record for that month;
4 for the season, he also tied for the lead among rookie inside
5 linebackers with 3.5 sacks and finished second among rookie
6 linebackers with one interception; and

7 WHEREAS, The achievements of this talented young football
8 player are truly impressive; his seamless transition from the
9 college ranks to the NFL is a tribute to his exceptional physical
10 ability, his knowledge and understanding of the game, and his
11 dedication to excellence, and the future is indeed bright with
12 promise for DeMeco Ryans; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
14 Legislature hereby congratulate DeMeco Ryans on his selection as
15 the 2006 Associated Press Defensive Rookie of the Year and extend to
16 him best wishes for a long and successful career in the NFL; and, be
17 it further

18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
19 prepared for Mr. Ryans as an expression of high regard by the Texas
20 House of Representatives.

Dutton

H.R. No. 353

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 353 was adopted by the House on March 1, 2007, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House