

By: Dukes

H.R. No. 798

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The untimely death of former NBA point guard and
2 three-time champion Dennis Wayne Johnson on February 22, 2007, at
3 the age of 52, has drawn to a close the life of a man who personified
4 the word "winner" in his many accomplishments as a player and coach;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Perhaps best remembered for his pivotal role as an
7 effective and efficient playmaker and top-notch defender with the
8 Boston Celtics, "DJ" had successfully transitioned into scouting
9 and coaching following a 14-year NBA career with Seattle, Phoenix,
10 and Boston; at the time of his passing, he was coaching the Austin
11 Toros, Boston's NBA Developmental League affiliate, and he had
12 previously worked as an assistant coach for the Celtics and the Los
13 Angeles Clippers; and

14 WHEREAS, A five-time NBA All-Star and nine-time selection to
15 the NBA's All-Defensive team, Mr. Johnson retired in 1990 as only
16 the 11th player in NBA history to record more than 15,000 points and
17 5,000 assists; and

18 WHEREAS, During his 14 seasons as a player, Mr. Johnson took
19 his teams to the playoffs 13 times; he guided the Seattle
20 Supersonics to the NBA Championship in 1979, earning Finals MVP
21 honors, and he won titles with Boston in 1984 and 1986; in 1991, he
22 joined an elite group of players when the Boston Celtics
23 organization retired his No. 3 jersey, a tribute reserved for a
24 special class and caliber of player; and

1 WHEREAS, Dennis Johnson's impact on professional basketball
2 was indeed profound, and he leaves behind a legacy that will be
3 treasured by the many people he touched and inspired through his
4 leadership, vision, and drive; now, therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
6 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Dennis Wayne Johnson
7 and extend deepest sympathy to the members of his family: to his
8 wife, Donna; to his children, Dwayne, Denise, and Daniel; and to his
9 relatives, friends, and many fans; and, be it further

10 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
11 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
12 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Dennis
13 Wayne Johnson.