

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Bill Richardson of the state of New Mexico has
2 dedicated his life to the public good, as a United States
3 congressman, ambassador to the United Nations, United States
4 secretary of energy, and now governor of New Mexico; and

5 WHEREAS, Born on November 15, 1947, in Pasadena, California,
6 Bill Richardson is the son of an American father and a Mexican
7 mother; raised in Mexico City, he attended high school and college
8 in New England, where he graduated from Tufts University in 1970
9 with a bachelor's degree and a master's degree the following year
10 from its Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy; and

11 WHEREAS, Married to his high school sweetheart, Barbara, Mr.
12 Richardson began his career as a public servant as the U.S.
13 representative for New Mexico's 3rd Congressional District, one of
14 the most ethnically diverse districts in the country; serving the
15 people of northern New Mexico for 15 years, he won 60 percent of the
16 vote in every election and held 2,700 town meetings; he sponsored
17 important bills improving rural health care and increasing the
18 number of nurses in New Mexico, and he was also instrumental in
19 bringing new industry and jobs to the state; and

20 WHEREAS, A leader in environmental issues, Congressman
21 Richardson helped create the Jemez National Recreation Area and
22 protect the Rio Grande and the San Juan Basin; he served as a
23 special envoy to sensitive international situations, successfully
24 winning the release of hostages, military personnel, and prisoners

1 in North Korea, Iraq, Cuba, and the Sudan; and

2 WHEREAS, Nominated to represent the United States at the
3 United Nations by President Bill Clinton in 1997, Ambassador
4 Richardson worked as an advocate for universal human rights and
5 democracy and for the status of women in such places as Afghanistan
6 and Africa; he was active as well in security issues, working to
7 stop the spread of international terrorism and the proliferation of
8 biological weapons; and

9 WHEREAS, Unanimously confirmed by the United States Senate as
10 secretary of energy in 1998, Secretary Richardson was a champion
11 for clean and renewable technologies, environmental
12 responsibility, and reducing the nation's dependence on foreign
13 sources of oil; he was the first secretary of energy to request
14 congress to provide compensation for Department of Energy workers
15 whose health had been affected by working in nuclear power plants;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, Campaigning for the post of governor of New Mexico
18 in 2002, candidate Richardson broke Teddy Roosevelt's 1907
19 inauguration day record by shaking 13,392 hands in eight hours; he
20 was sworn in as governor on January 1, 2003, at the Palace of the
21 Governors in Santa Fe, the nation's oldest seat of government; and

22 WHEREAS, In his role as governor, Bill Richardson has
23 garnered support across party lines by improving education, cutting
24 taxes, expanding access to health care, helping to develop
25 renewable energy, and building a stronger economy for the people of
26 New Mexico; he has also made the state safer by strengthening laws
27 against drunk driving, domestic violence, and sex crimes; under his

1 leadership, New Mexico now has a balanced budget and the largest
2 budget reserve in state history; he was reelected to his second term
3 last year by winning 69 percent of the vote, representing the
4 largest margin of victory for any governor in state history; and

5 WHEREAS, While serving as governor, he has taught a unique
6 course in state government at New Mexico State University, adding
7 to his long teaching career at such institutions as Harvard's
8 Kennedy School of Government, the University of New Mexico, and
9 United World College; and

10 WHEREAS, Governor Richardson has further served his state and
11 nation as chairman of the Western Governors' Association and the
12 Border Governors' Conference, as chairman of Freedom House, a
13 nonpartisan organization promoting democracy worldwide, and as a
14 member of the boards of the Natural Resources Defense Council and
15 United Way International; for his work freeing hostages and
16 prisoners around the world, he has been nominated four times for the
17 Nobel Peace Prize; and

18 WHEREAS, Governor Bill Richardson has worked tirelessly to
19 ensure the health, safety, and prosperity of his fellow citizens,
20 and his life and brilliant career are exemplars of America's
21 diversity and boundless opportunity; now, therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
23 Legislature hereby honor New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson for
24 his outstanding achievements and commend him for his many years of
25 dedication to the public good; and, be it further

26 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
27 prepared for Governor Richardson as an expression of high regard by

H.R. No. 853

1 the Texas House of Representatives.

Gonzalez Toureilles

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

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 853 was adopted by the House on March 19, 2007, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House