

By: Dutton

H.R. No. 1318

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Houston attorney Bobby Caldwell has been fighting
2 injustice and representing the disadvantaged for nearly half a
3 century; and

4 WHEREAS, A graduate of what is now the Thurgood Marshall
5 School of Law at Texas Southern University, Mr. Caldwell was
6 accepted into the Texas Bar in 1962; the following year he opened
7 his first practice with attorney Clarence Coleman in Houston; and

8 WHEREAS, During the tumultuous days of the 1960s, Mr.
9 Caldwell represented several activist clients in controversial
10 cases; he defended members of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating
11 Committee at The University of Texas at Austin who were accused of
12 inciting a riot as well as students at the University of Houston who
13 had been arrested after rallying in support of a fellow student; and

14 WHEREAS, In perhaps his most famous case, Mr. Caldwell
15 represented SNCC activist Lee Otis Johnson, whose sentence of 30
16 years drew widespread protests of unfair treatment; Mr. Caldwell's
17 appeal of the conviction resulted in the overturn of his client's
18 sentence in federal court; and

19 WHEREAS, In the years since, Mr. Caldwell has gone on to
20 defend other African American civil rights activists; throughout
21 his career, he has been a champion for equality and justice in the
22 criminal, civil, and family courts of Texas, and his commitment and
23 passion continue to inspire all who know him; now, therefore, be it

24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas

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1 Legislature honor the achievements of Bobby Caldwell and extend to
2 him best wishes for the future; and, be it further

3 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
4 prepared for Mr. Caldwell as an expression of high regard by the
5 Texas House of Representatives.