

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The passing of Thurmond Woodard of Austin on April  
2 4, 2007, at the age of 58, has brought a profoundly felt loss to his  
3 friends and family, yet the memory of his accomplished life may  
4 offer them a measure of comfort in their time of grief; and

5           WHEREAS, Born on January 9, 1949, Mr. Woodard was a graduate  
6 of Hampton University in Virginia; he enjoyed a successful 30-year  
7 career in finance, marketing, and human resources, dedicating much  
8 of his work to promoting diversity in corporate America; and

9           WHEREAS, The former president and CEO of a consulting firm in  
10 Georgia, Mr. Woodard came to Dell, Inc., in 2000; the Austin-based  
11 company's first vice president for global diversity and chief  
12 ethics, privacy, and compliance officer, he helped shape Dell into  
13 a leading employer of minorities; and

14           WHEREAS, His efforts were instrumental in earning Dell the  
15 top award for workplace diversity from the U.S. Department of  
16 Labor, the Secretary of Labor's Opportunity Award, a ranking as one  
17 of the Top 20 Best Corporate Citizens, and the 2005 Central and  
18 South Texas Minority Business Council Corporation of the Year  
19 award; Mr. Woodard's achievements in creating opportunities for  
20 minorities were recognized by the Austin Area Urban League in 2006  
21 with the Whitney M. Young, Jr., Award; and

22           WHEREAS, He also gave back to his community as a trustee for  
23 Huston-Tillotson University and as a member of the Congressional  
24 Black Caucus Foundation Board, the Ethics and Compliance Officers

1 Association, the Catalyst board, and ELC; moreover, he was a  
2 devoted congregant of David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, where  
3 he served as a deacon and Sunday school teacher and where he and his  
4 wife, Suzanne, led Crown Financial Ministries; and

5 WHEREAS, Those fortunate enough to have known Thurmond  
6 Woodard will always remember his generosity of spirit, his tireless  
7 optimism, and his unwavering dedication to his friends, his family,  
8 and the betterment of his community; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas  
10 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Thurmond Woodard and  
11 extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife of  
12 37 years, Suzanne Woodard; to his children, Miki and Derek; to his  
13 sister, Towanna Comer; and to his other relatives and friends; and,  
14 be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
16 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
17 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Thurmond  
18 Woodard.

Dukes

H.R. No. 1503

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1503 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on May 4, 2007.

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Chief Clerk of the House