

By: Dukes

H.R. No. 1503

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.