

By: Davis of Dallas

H.R. No. 1644

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Curtistene Smith McCowan of DeSoto has been named a
2 winner of the 2007 Outstanding Texan Award by the Texas Legislative
3 Black Caucus in the professional category; and

4 WHEREAS, Outstanding Texans are honored for the positive
5 impact they make in their communities, and the dedicated service
6 that Mrs. McCowan has provided as a local leader has greatly
7 enhanced the lives of many individuals in the Dallas area; and

8 WHEREAS, A graduate of Dallas Baptist University, Mrs.
9 McCowan had a distinguished career with the Federal Trade
10 Commission, retiring in January 2005 after more than 32 years of
11 service; and

12 WHEREAS, Mrs. McCowan has long been active in her community;
13 a charter member and president of Concerned DeSoto Citizens, she
14 has served as vice president and audit committee chair of the DeSoto
15 Economic Development Corporation and as a member of the Charter
16 Review Commission for the City of DeSoto; and

17 WHEREAS, The first African American elected to public office
18 in the city, she won a seat on the DeSoto ISD Board of Trustees in
19 1990, serving two years as president during her three terms with the
20 board; in 2000, she was elected as the charter president of the
21 DeSoto ISD Education Foundation board of directors; she has been a
22 member of the group's executive committee since 2001, and she
23 currently works with the High School Vision Committee; and

24 WHEREAS, Mrs. McCowan has shared her time with such

1 worthwhile organizations as Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and has
2 served as president of the Dallas Alumnae Chapter, co-chair of the
3 2003 Southwest Regional Conference, program co-coordinator of the
4 Southwest Regional Program, and Southwest Regional social action
5 co-coordinator; a former president of the Dallas Area Chapter of
6 Federally Employed Women, she has also served on the board of
7 directors for the North Texas Chapter of the National Multiple
8 Sclerosis Society; and

9 WHEREAS, Her contributions have earned Mrs. McCowan a host
10 of accolades through the years, including a Trailblazer Award from
11 DeSoto High School, Humanitarian Award from Chi Eta Phi Sorority,
12 Heroes for Children Award from the Texas State Board of Education,
13 and the National Award for Outstanding Volunteerism from the
14 Federal Trade Commission; in 2007, DeSoto ISD paid tribute to this
15 dedicated civic leader by naming a middle school in her honor; and

16 WHEREAS, Curtistene McCowan stands as an inspiring example
17 of how one person can better a community through civic activism, and
18 the Outstanding Texan commendation is a fitting recognition of her
19 exemplary achievements; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
21 Legislature hereby congratulate Curtistene Smith McCowan on
22 receiving a 2007 Outstanding Texan Award from the Texas Legislative
23 Black Caucus and extend to her best wishes for further success; and,
24 be it further

25 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
26 prepared for Mrs. McCowan as an expression of high regard by the
27 Texas House of Representatives.