

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, For more than 40 years, the U.S. Small Business  
2 Administration has recognized outstanding small business owners  
3 for their contributions to the nation's economy during National  
4 Small Business Week; and

5           WHEREAS, The SBA Houston District Office, which serves 32  
6 counties and some 350,000 businesses, is honoring 10 outstanding  
7 individuals on May 11, 2007, at the Small Business Week Awards  
8 Luncheon; the event is being sponsored by the Houston chapter of  
9 SCORE, a nonprofit association dedicated to entrepreneur education  
10 and the formation, growth, and success of the nation's small  
11 businesses; and

12           WHEREAS, Valerie Boudreaux-Allen has been named the Women in  
13 Business Champion of the Year; she graduated from the University of  
14 Houston in 1979 with a degree in marketing and embarked on her  
15 professional career as an SBA loan packager and a business planner  
16 for minority enterprises; in 1981, she played a vital role in the  
17 establishment of the Economic Development Center for Texas Southern  
18 University, where she served as assistant director; and

19           WHEREAS, Ms. Boudreaux-Allen opened her own loan packaging  
20 and business planning practice in 1984, and she later used her  
21 expertise to assist agencies such as the Houston Small Business  
22 Development Corporation and the Corporation for Economic  
23 Development of Harris County; today, she operates First Step  
24 Training & Consulting, which provides technical assistance, loan

1 packaging, and other support to its clients; and

2 WHEREAS, Small businesses are the lifeblood of cities and  
3 towns across the country, and National Small Business Week provides  
4 a welcome opportunity to honor those men and women who contribute to  
5 the economic vitality of their communities through their  
6 professional endeavors; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas  
8 Legislature hereby congratulate Valerie Boudreaux-Allen on her  
9 selection as the 2007 Women in Business Champion of the Year by the  
10 Houston District Office of the U.S. Small Business Administration  
11 and extend to her best wishes for continued success; and, be it  
12 further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
14 prepared for Ms. Boudreaux-Allen as an expression of high regard by  
15 the Texas House of Representatives.

Dutton

H.R. No. 1843

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1843 was adopted by the House on May 18, 2007, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House