

By: Deshotel

H.R. No. 2571

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Citizens across Texas and the nation mourn the
2 untimely loss of Yolanda King, the eldest daughter of Coretta Scott
3 King and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who died on May 15, 2007, at
4 the age of 51; and

5 WHEREAS, Born November 17, 1955, in Montgomery, Alabama, Ms.
6 King earned a bachelor's degree with honors from Smith College and a
7 master of fine arts degree in theater from New York University; and

8 WHEREAS, An actress as well as an activist devoted to
9 carrying on her father's work, she performed and directed for the
10 theater in New York and elsewhere and taught at the Martin Luther
11 King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change, where she was a board
12 member; with Atallah Shabazz, the daughter of Malcolm X, she
13 founded a theater company, Higher Ground Productions; and

14 WHEREAS, In her stage production *Achieving the Dream*, Ms.
15 King played several characters in the civil rights movement; she
16 skillfully portrayed historical figures on film as well, playing
17 Rosa Parks in the TV movie *King*, the wife of Malcolm X in the film
18 *Death of a Prophet*, and Medgar Evers' daughter in the film *Ghosts of*
19 *Mississippi*; and

20 WHEREAS, Ms. King regularly gave inspirational and
21 motivational lecture-performances for Fortune 500 corporations and
22 at church and civic events, conferences, and universities; she
23 served on the Partnership Council of Habitat for Humanity and was a
24 member of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and the

1 NAACP; she was associated with the Martin Luther King Support Group
2 of Southeast Texas, founded by Hargie Faye Savoy at the request of
3 Coretta Scott King, and through this group Ms. King helped to carry
4 on her father and mother's legacy in Texas; and

5 WHEREAS, Ms. King exemplified the goals and ideals of her
6 father's message of nonviolent change and racial equality, and
7 through her work as a performer, activist, and speaker she touched
8 the lives of many; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
10 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life and work of Yolanda King
11 and extend sincere condolences to her family: to her brothers,
12 Dexter Scott King and Martin Luther King III; to her sister, the
13 Reverend Bernice King; and to her other relatives and many friends;
14 and, be it further

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