

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 205

In Memory
of
Dr. Lois L. Woods

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas joins the citizens of Houston in mourning the loss of Dr. Lois L. Woods, who died January 12, 2007, at the age of 83; and

WHEREAS, Lois Woods was born May 18, 1923, to Mattie Bendy Prestage and James Prestage; she moved to Houston at a very young age and became a life member of the historic Antioch Missionary Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, She earned a bachelor's degree from Texas State University for Negroes in Houston; she married Herman Woods, who supported and encouraged her to continue her education; and

WHEREAS, She earned a master's degree from the Maxwell School of Citizenship at Syracuse University and a law degree from the Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University; she also studied supervision and administration at Texas A&M University and special education at the University of Houston; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Woods was dedicated to education and taught for the Houston Independent School District for 29 years; she also taught for seven years at Texas Southern University and spent the last 16 years of her career teaching for the University of Houston; and

WHEREAS, She was a member of Zeta Phi Beta and Iota Phi Lambda sororities and belonged to Phi Delta Kappa and Phi Alpha Delta fraternities; Dr. Woods was a 1989 Achiever of the National Women of Achievement and a member of the Top Ladies of Distinction and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Woods was a pioneer for black women during her long and illustrious career; she was the first black woman to graduate from the Thurgood Marshall School of Law and the Maxwell School of Citizenship, and she was the first black woman to be appointed to the American Arbitration Association in Texas and to serve as a classroom teacher for the University of Houston high school equivalency program; and

WHEREAS, A woman of courage, creativity, and compassion, she gave generously to others, and her wisdom, warmth, and valued counsel will not be forgotten by those who knew her; now, therefore, be it

S.R. No. 205

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 80th Legislature, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Dr. Lois L. Woods: her brother, Dr. James J. Prestage and his wife, Jewel Prestage; and her nieces and nephews; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the members of her family as an expression of deepest sympathy from the Texas Senate, and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Dr. Lois L. Woods.

Ellis

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 14, 2007, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate