

By: Frost

H.R. No. 158

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Carlisle Baxter Rathburn III is being installed  
2 as the third president of Texas A&M University--Texarkana at an  
3 investiture ceremony on February 5, 2009; and

4 WHEREAS, A longtime leader in higher education, C. B.  
5 Rathburn began his notable career at the University of Florida; he  
6 went on to serve at Santa Fe Community College and Valencia  
7 Community College before relocating to Texas, where he joined the  
8 staff of Galveston College in 1984; and

9 WHEREAS, Dr. Rathburn's dedication and hard work earned him a  
10 number of promotions during his tenure in Galveston; he held vice  
11 presidential positions for more than a decade, and in 1995 he was  
12 named president of the school; and

13 WHEREAS, Most recently, this respected administrator served  
14 as president of Savannah Technical College in Georgia, and his  
15 leadership helped that institution to become the third fastest  
16 growing two-year college of its size, according to *Community*  
17 *College Times*, with a total enrollment growth of nearly 70 percent;  
18 he also oversaw a redevelopment of the main campus that included the  
19 addition of three new facilities totaling 135,000 square feet; and

20 WHEREAS, Dr. Rathburn completed his own education at the  
21 University of Florida at Gainesville, where he earned a Ph.D. in  
22 higher education administration after graduating with honors from  
23 Huntingdon College in Montgomery, Alabama; and

24 WHEREAS, He has shared his expertise with such professional

1 organizations as the American Association of Community Colleges,  
2 the National Commission on Instructional Technology, and the  
3 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, to which he was  
4 elected commissioner; he has also given back through his work with  
5 the National Commission on Workforce and Economic Development, the  
6 Savannah Poverty Reduction plan, and the Savannah, Galveston, and  
7 Georgia Area Chambers of Commerce; and

8 WHEREAS, Through the years, Dr. Rathburn has garnered a host  
9 of accolades for his work, including the 2007 Outstanding Graduate  
10 Award from the Institute of Higher Education at the University of  
11 Florida, the 2006 Savannah Industrial Person of the Year award, the  
12 Distinguished Service Award from the City of Galveston, the Texas  
13 Association of Colleges and Universities Excellence in Higher  
14 Education Award, and the Myrtle S. Bonner Award for Excellence in  
15 Education; and

16 WHEREAS, With his proven leadership ability and extensive  
17 experience in higher education, C. B. Rathburn is uniquely  
18 qualified to build on Texas A&M University--Texarkana's record of  
19 academic achievement and to further its commitment to excellence;  
20 now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
22 Legislature hereby congratulate Dr. Carlisle Baxter Rathburn III on  
23 his appointment as president of Texas A&M University--Texarkana and  
24 extend to him sincere best wishes for success in his new post; and,  
25 be it further

26 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
27 prepared for Dr. Rathburn as an expression of high regard by the

H.R. No. 158

1 Texas House of Representatives.