

By: Christian

H.R. No. 447

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Author Harold Fickett of Nacogdoches has made a
2 significant contribution to the public discourse about religious
3 faith and Christianity through his books and articles; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Fickett earned his bachelor's degree summa cum
5 laude from the University of California, Los Angeles, in 1975 and
6 his master's degree in creative writing from Brown University in
7 1978; he has also studied at the Graduate Theological Union in
8 Berkeley; and

9 WHEREAS, A published author of both fiction and nonfiction,
10 Mr. Fickett has written a volume of short stories, *Mrs. Sunday's*
11 *Problem and Other Stories*, and several novels, including *The Holy*
12 *Fool*, *First Light*, and *Daybreak*; his book *The Living Christ*
13 combines journalism with theological reflection, and he has
14 collaborated with Charles Colson on a number of works, including
15 the 2008 book, *The Faith*; Mr. Fickett has also written biographies
16 of the author Flannery O'Connor and the humanitarian Albert
17 Schweitzer; and

18 WHEREAS, A man of strong faith, Mr. Fickett has shared his
19 beliefs as cofounder of *Image: Art, Faith, Mystery*, a journal
20 showcasing religious artists, and he is an associate editor of
21 *GodSpy*, an online Catholic magazine that provides thoughtful
22 commentary on contemporary events and culture; he has published
23 widely in the secular media as well, including the *National Review*
24 and the online magazines *Salon* and *Slate*; and

1 WHEREAS, An experienced educator, Mr. Fickett has taught
2 English at Wheaton College, St. John's Seminary College, Friends
3 University, and Kansas Newman College; he served as executive
4 director of the Milton Center at KNC, and in that role he instituted
5 a postgraduate fellows program and established the Glen Workshop, a
6 yearly conference for Christian writers; and

7 WHEREAS, In Nacogdoches, this esteemed gentleman serves as
8 chair of the board of Regents Academy, where he also teaches the
9 capstone humanities course to seniors as a volunteer; in addition,
10 he serves his community as a lay catechist at the Catholic Student
11 Center at Stephen F. Austin State University and as chair of the
12 community council; and

13 WHEREAS, For more than 30 years, this thought-provoking and
14 prolific author has both written about current events and explored
15 profound mysteries of faith, and in so doing, he has enriched his
16 community and the culture at large; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
18 Legislature hereby commend Harold Fickett for his literary
19 achievements, his influence on contemporary culture, and his
20 contributions to his community and extend to him sincere best
21 wishes for continued success and happiness; and, be it further

22 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
23 prepared for Mr. Fickett as an expression of high regard by the
24 Texas House of Representatives.