H.R. No. 828

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Residents of Pasadena lost their most enthusiastic
 sports fan with the passing of Walter Woodard on February 13, 2009,
 at the age of 62; and

WHEREAS, Born to Jack and Lucy Woodard on November 30, 1946,
Walter Woodard went on to enroll in Pasadena public schools in 1958;
he attended San Jacinto Intermediate School and Pasadena High
School, and he graduated from Sam Rayburn High School in 1966; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Woodard became involved in Pasadena's local 8 sports scene when he served as the honorary coach of the 1973 Colt 9 League All-Star baseball team, which made it to the world 10 11 championship that year, and after that experience, he rarely missed another game; an ardent supporter of local teams and a variety of 12 sports, Mr. Woodard could often be spotted on the sidelines at 13 14 baseball fields, high school gyms, and stadiums, shouting out calls and reminding the players to tuck in their shirttails; he also 15 helped coaches decide what plays to use, and he traveled and 16 celebrated wins with many teams; his passion for sports made him an 17 icon in Pasadena, and he was highly regarded by generations of 18 athletes, coaches, and spectators for his loyalty and for making 19 20 sure everyone in the stands was involved and enjoying themselves at 21 all the sporting events; and

22 WHEREAS, This esteemed Texan was also known for his work with 23 the Muscular Dystrophy Association and for his participation in 24 city food drives and various community service organizations; Mr.

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Woodard's unwavering support of local youth programs was recognized by the City of Pasadena and the Pasadena Independent School District in 2008, when he was named Pasadena Coach of the Year; in addition, the mayor proclaimed Walter Woodard Day and renamed a charity event, the Walter Woodard Toys for Tots Softball Tournament, in his honor, and this spring, the Little League and Pony teams will wear his initials on their sleeves; and

8 WHEREAS, A beloved citizen of Pasadena, Walter Woodard 9 touched the lives of countless area residents, and he leaves behind 10 a legacy that will forever be treasured by all those who were 11 fortunate enough to know him; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas 12 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Walter Woodard and 13 14 extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his 15 brother, Vic Woodard, and his wife, Claudett; to his nephew, Jeff Pickle, and his wife, Tiffany; to his niece, Lori Barkley, and her 16 17 husband, John; to his great-nieces, Jenna, Averi, and Reagan; to his great-nephew, Nolan; and to his other relatives and many 18 friends; and, be it further 19

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be 21 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of 22 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Walter 23 Woodard.

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 828 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on March 26, 2009.

Chief Clerk of the House