

By: Davis of Dallas

H.R. No. 1079

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Zachary Thompson, director of the Dallas County
2 Department of Health and Human Services, has received the 2009
3 Health Care Award from the Interdenominational Ministerial
4 Alliance of Greater Dallas; and

5 WHEREAS, Dedicated to helping those in need, the IMA has
6 served the Dallas community for more than 50 years; its Health Care
7 Award honors individuals who work to maintain the well-being of all
8 members of society, including the most vulnerable; and

9 WHEREAS, The mission of the DCHHS is to protect Dallas County
10 citizens through disease prevention and intervention and by
11 fostering a healthy community and environment; in addition to
12 conducting assessments, monitoring disease outbreaks, and
13 providing health services and community education, the agency helps
14 control the spread of disease through regulation; and

15 WHEREAS, Under the direction of Mr. Thompson, the department
16 has responded quickly to crises and undertaken numerous important
17 initiatives, among them Point of Distribution training for area
18 municipalities and large employers and hosting of a pandemic
19 influenza tabletop exercise for representatives from the
20 education, business, civic, law enforcement, and medical
21 communities; the DCHHS Medical Reserve Corps received national
22 recognition for its exceptional contributions during the response
23 and recovery efforts following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and in
24 2008, the DCHHS heat-related illness surveillance program was one

1 of 25 local public health programs to receive a Model Practice award
2 from the National Association of County and City Health Officials;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Thompson, who holds both a bachelor's and a
5 master's degree in social work, became director in January 2004
6 after eight years as deputy director; he has guided his department
7 in protecting those in frail health through such endeavors as a
8 weatherization program for low-income residents and the provision
9 of air-conditioning units to the elderly and disabled; under his
10 leadership, the DCHHS has received more than \$4 million in grants to
11 support its work; and

12 WHEREAS, A caring and dedicated public servant for more than
13 20 years, Zachary Thompson has executed the mission of the DCHHS
14 with tremendous skill, and his commitment to the safety and
15 well-being of all area residents has placed the agency at the
16 forefront of public health preparedness; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
18 Legislature hereby congratulate Zachary Thompson of the Dallas
19 County Department of Health and Human Services on receiving the
20 2009 Health Care Award from the Interdenominational Ministerial
21 Alliance of Greater Dallas and extend to him best wishes for
22 continued success; and, be it further

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