

By: Hunter

H.R. No. 1415

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, An admired political analyst and educator, Dr.  
2 Robert R. Bezdek has served Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi  
3 and the surrounding community for more than three decades; and

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Bezdek came to the "Island University" with an  
5 extensive background in politics, having spent time in Mexico City  
6 researching the leaders and opposition forces there and publishing  
7 various articles on the subject; since he was among the first  
8 professors at the university when it opened in 1973, he wrote the  
9 political science curriculum and taught many of the courses before  
10 additional faculty members were hired; Dr. Bezdek has served as  
11 president of the campus chapter of the Texas Association of College  
12 Teachers, as chair of the College Personnel Committee, and as the  
13 faculty representative on the Academic Council, and in 1990, he  
14 conducted surveys of area high school students about their  
15 perceptions of the university in preparation for its transition to  
16 a four-year institution; this renowned scholar has also published  
17 in *Social Science Quarterly*, and in 2002, he was chosen as the  
18 Regents Professor of Political Science; and

19 WHEREAS, Through the years, Dr. Bezdek has been interviewed  
20 on numerous occasions by representatives from newspapers and  
21 television and radio stations in both the United States and Mexico;  
22 these reporters regularly seek his expertise on local, state, and  
23 national elections, as well as on Mexican political events, and he  
24 was hired as an analyst by KRIS-TV; he also spoke about voter

1 turnout in South Texas on CNN, and in 2000, he covered the historic  
2 Mexican presidential election for a local station, giving live  
3 updates, in Spanish, from San Luis Potosi; and

4 WHEREAS, Actively engaged in his community, Dr. Bezdek has  
5 been a consultant for city officials and several organizations,  
6 including the Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce, the Center for  
7 Coastal Studies, the Corpus Christi Independent School District,  
8 and the Diocese of Corpus Christi, and he has worked on a  
9 redistricting project for the Nueces County Commissioners Court;  
10 moreover, he has been a featured speaker for such groups as the  
11 Rotary Club and Leadership Corpus Christi, and he has given  
12 presentations at The University of Texas--Pan American, Coastal  
13 Bend College, Texas A&M University--Kingsville, and Del Mar  
14 College; and

15 WHEREAS, Despite his involvement outside of Texas A&M  
16 University--Corpus Christi, Dr. Bezdek has never wavered in his  
17 commitment to his students; he encourages them to participate in  
18 his extracurricular projects with him, and they gain vital hands-on  
19 experience by conducting surveys and interviews, gathering data on  
20 elections, and even taking field trips to Mexico; Dr. Bezdek also  
21 motivates his students to pursue advanced degrees; as the president  
22 of the Southwest Association of Pre-Law Advisors, he has hosted law  
23 school recruiters on campus, and many of his students have gone on  
24 to become elected officials; and

25 WHEREAS, Over the course of his distinguished career, Dr.  
26 Bezdek has benefited A&M--Corpus Christi in myriad ways, and it is  
27 indeed a pleasure to recognize him for his notable achievements;

1 now, therefore, be it

2       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
3 Legislature hereby honor Dr. Robert R. Bezdek of Texas A&M  
4 University--Corpus Christi and extend to him sincere best wishes  
5 for continued success and happiness; and, be it further

6       RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
7 prepared for Dr. Bezdek as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
8 House of Representatives.