

By: Cohen

H.R. No. 2036

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Patricia L. Starck has served as dean of the  
2 School of Nursing at The University of Texas Health Science Center  
3 at Houston for 25 years; and

4 WHEREAS, A native of Georgia, Patricia Starck completed her  
5 associate's degree in nursing at Georgia Southwestern State  
6 University and went on to earn bachelor's and master's degrees in  
7 nursing at Emory University; she subsequently obtained her  
8 doctorate in nursing from the University of Alabama at Birmingham;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Dean Starck has contributed significantly to  
11 scholarship and research in her field, receiving 14 grant awards  
12 for her work, publishing 45 journal articles, serving as editor on  
13 18 publications, and collaborating on and leading 12 clinical  
14 research projects and 6 education research projects for  
15 instructional distribution; and

16 WHEREAS, Under the leadership of this accomplished woman,  
17 student enrollment in the UTHSC at Houston School of Nursing has  
18 nearly doubled; in addition, philanthropic giving has increased  
19 more than twentyfold, the number of endowed scholarships has risen  
20 from 2 to 24, the number of endowed chairs has grown from 1 to 13, 7  
21 research endowments have been created, and the faculty is almost  
22 twice what it was when she began her tenure; the PARTNERS volunteer  
23 support group, which Dean Starck founded, has played a key role in  
24 this process, providing scholarships, endowed professorships, and

1 research funds and encouraging and supporting nursing students in  
2 their studies; and

3         WHEREAS, Dean Starck has further contributed to the  
4 development of numerous innovative programs, including the Women's  
5 Health Care Nursing Program, the Pediatric Nursing Practitioner  
6 Program, the Neonatal Nursing Program, the Acute Care Nursing  
7 Program, the Adult Health Nursing Program, the Nurse Leadership and  
8 Administration in Health Systems Program, the BSN BAC2 Degree  
9 Program, which became independent in 2008, the Doctor of Science in  
10 Nursing degree program, and the state's first Doctor of Nursing  
11 Practice degree program; moreover, she has helped establish the  
12 Center for Nursing Research, the Center on Aging, the Center for  
13 Substance Abuse Prevention, Education and Research, and the  
14 Biological Sciences Laboratory; and

15         WHEREAS, Adding to her achievements, Dean Starck recently  
16 oversaw the construction of an award-winning 195,000-square-foot,  
17 eight-floor LEED Gold Certified green building, which now houses  
18 the School of Nursing; and

19         WHEREAS, Dean Starck has brought honor to the institution and  
20 to herself as the recipient of numerous awards and distinctions:  
21 the 2005 Health Policy Award, the Presidential Award for  
22 Distinguished Contributions and Sterling Leadership from the XIV  
23 Congress on Viktor Frankl's Logotherapy, the Griffin B. Bell  
24 Distinguished Lecturer at Georgia Southwestern State University,  
25 the Sister Bernadette Armiger Award from the American Association  
26 of Colleges of Nursing, the Nursing Excellence Leadership Award  
27 from the Houston Organization of Nurse Executives, the

1 Distinguished Professional Woman Award from The University of Texas  
2 Health Science Center at Houston Committee on the Status of Women  
3 1993, and the Collaboration Between Nursing Service and Education  
4 Award from the Council of Deans/Directors and Nurse Executives; she  
5 has also been named a Woman of Excellence by the Federation of  
6 Houston Professional Women and an Outstanding Woman in Education by  
7 the YWCA, and she belongs to such notable groups as Leadership  
8 Texas, the Alumni Association of UTHSC at Houston School of  
9 Nursing, Sigma Xi, Sigma Theta Tau, and Phi Kappa Phi societies, and  
10 the American Academy of Nursing, of which she is a fellow; in  
11 addition, the School of Nursing graduate degree program has been  
12 ranked in the top five percent of graduate nursing programs in the  
13 nation by the *U.S. News & World Report* 2010 edition of "America's  
14 Best Graduate Schools"; and

15 WHEREAS, The UTHSC at Houston School of Nursing has benefited  
16 immensely from the exemplary leadership of Patricia Starck, and her  
17 outstanding efforts have made a positive and lasting difference in  
18 the field of nursing in Texas; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
20 Legislature hereby honor Dr. Patricia L. Starck for her impressive  
21 achievements as dean of The University of Texas Health Science  
22 Center at Houston School of Nursing and extend to her sincere best  
23 wishes for continued success; and, be it further

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