

By: Turner of Harris

H.R. No. 2346

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Jewell L. McGowen of Houston marked a very special
2 milestone in her life with the observance of her 80th birthday on
3 April 29, 2009; and

4 WHEREAS, The daughter of Leola and Willie McDade, the former
5 Jewell McDade was born in Hempstead, where she graduated from Sam
6 Schwartz High School; she earned a bachelor's degree in business
7 education from Texas Southern University and a master's degree in
8 counseling and guidance from Prairie View A&M University, obtained
9 her vocational guidance certification from Our Lady of the Lake
10 College, and pursued additional studies at the Perkins School of
11 Theology at Southern Methodist University; and

12 WHEREAS, Married to Ernest McGowen, Sr., for 62 years, Mrs.
13 McGowen is the mother of four children, Ernest McGowen, Jr., Jewell
14 M. Maddox, Cynthia M. Jones, and the late Larry McGowen, and with
15 the passing years, her close-knit family has grown to include eight
16 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; and

17 WHEREAS, In addition to raising a family, Mrs. McGowen
18 enjoyed a long and rewarding career with the Houston Independent
19 School District; a teacher of English and business courses at
20 Miller Junior High, she also benefited many students as a counselor
21 and test coordinator at Key Middle School and a career and college
22 advisement counselor at Michael E. DeBakey High School for Health
23 Professions; moreover, she has worked for the Houston Community
24 College System as an administrator and school/community liaison;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, The founder and chair of the Northeast Cultural Arts
3 Council Board of Directors, this dedicated civic leader was the
4 organizing president of the Houston Black American Democrats, a
5 charter member and vice president of the Texas Coalition of Black
6 Democrats, and treasurer of the state Democratic Party; among the
7 many other organizations she has benefited through her leadership
8 are the United Methodist Church, the nonprofit Julia C. Hester
9 House, and the Texas Board of Law Examiners; and

10 WHEREAS, Mrs. McGowen has received numerous well-deserved
11 honors through the years, including the Cinderella Award from the
12 Variety Club of Houston, a master teacher designation and Counselor
13 of the Year award from HISD, and the 2009 Living Legend Award from
14 Blue Triangle Multi Service; and

15 WHEREAS, Cherished for her wisdom, generosity, and
16 dedication, Jewell McGowen has enriched the lives of many people,
17 and her contributions continue to resonate throughout the community
18 she is proud to call home; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
20 Legislature hereby congratulate Jewell L. McGowen on her 80th
21 birthday and extend to her sincere best wishes for continued
22 happiness and good fortune; and, be it further

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