H.R. No. 2390

## RESOLUTION

- 1 WHEREAS, Henrietta Eugene Roberts Stevenson of San Antonio is
- 2 being honored as a Diamond Member by the Alpha Tau Omega Chapter of
- 3 Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., on June 13, 2009; and
- WHEREAS, A native of the Alamo City, Mrs. Stevenson was born
- 5 on July 24, 1915, the granddaughter of former slaves; her father
- 6 grew up on a plantation in Mississippi, and her mother, the former
- 7 Ira Aldridge Kirkpatrick, was the granddaughter of runaway slave
- 8 Madison Kirkpatrick; and
- 9 WHEREAS, Mrs. Stevenson graduated from Douglas Senior High
- 10 School and received a \$25 scholarship to Fisk University, and she
- 11 completed her freshman year at St. Philip's College in San Antonio;
- 12 she went on to earn her bachelor's and master's degrees from the
- 13 University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, where she was initiated into
- 14 the Beta Eta Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and served as its
- 15 president; and
- 16 WHEREAS, Following completion of her education, Mrs.
- 17 Stevenson accepted a position at Samuel Huston College in Austin
- 18 and became a charter member of the Beta Psi Omega Chapter of Alpha
- 19 Kappa Alpha; she went on to teach Spanish at St. Philip's College,
- 20 support the war effort as a clerk for the War Department Office of
- 21 Dependency Benefits, and become the first African American educator
- 22 in the Morristown, New Jersey, public school system; and
- 23 WHEREAS, She continued her affiliation with Alpha Kappa
- 24 Alpha, serving as president of the Beta Alpha Omega Chapter in

- 1 Newark, New Jersey from 1960 to 1962, and in 1971, she returned to
- 2 San Antonio and transferred to the Alpha Tau Omega Chapter; she
- 3 taught at Laura Steele Elementary before retiring in 1982; and
- WHEREAS, Mrs. Stevenson has also made generous contributions
- 5 to her community; an active member of the NAACP since 1952, she was
- 6 co-chair of the 1983 Freedom Fund Dinner and the Branch Voting
- 7 Rights Roundtable and a founding member of the Carver Community
- 8 Cultural Center Volunteers; she earned the 2008 Service Award from
- 9 Carver Volunteers, the 2007 African American Reflections Sojourner
- 10 Truth Advocacy Award, and the 1993 Top Ladies of Distinction
- 11 Volunteer Service Award for her selfless efforts; and
- 12 WHEREAS, Mrs. Stevenson was also honored with a Service Award
- 13 from Huston-Tillotson College, a St. Philip's College Presidential
- 14 Award for Service on the Centennial Celebration Committee, and a
- 15 Curry Award from the United Negro College Fund; in addition, she is
- 16 a conservator of the Schomburg Society for the Preservation of
- 17 Black Culture, a 2002 Inductee into the San Antonio Women's Hall of
- 18 Fame, and a recipient of a Headliner Award in the category of
- 19 education from the Association for Women in Communications; and
- WHEREAS, Henrietta Stevenson has inspired countless people
- 21 with her unwavering commitment to serving others, and she is indeed
- 22 deserving of special recognition; now, therefore, be it
- 23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
- 24 Legislature hereby congratulate Henrietta Eugene Roberts Stevenson
- 25 on being recognized as a Diamond Member by the Alpha Tau Omega
- 26 Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and extend to her sincere best
- 27 wishes for the future; and, be it further

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- 1 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
- 2 prepared for Mrs. Stevenson as an expression of high regard by the
- 3 Texas House of Representatives.

McClendon

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 2390 was adopted by the House on May 28, 2009, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House