

By: Torres

H.R. No. 37

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Robert R. Furgason has been inducted into the
2 Corpus Christi Business Hall of Fame by Junior Achievement of South
3 Texas; and

4 WHEREAS, A worldwide, nonprofit organization, Junior
5 Achievement is committed to educating young people about free
6 enterprise and entrepreneurship and fostering financial literacy;
7 the organization's Corpus Christi Business Hall of Fame recognizes
8 local individuals who have achieved excellence in their field and
9 who have demonstrated vision and innovation, inspiring leadership,
10 and community mindedness; and

11 WHEREAS, Dr. Furgason served as the president of Texas A&M
12 University--Corpus Christi from 1990 to 2004; during his tenure,
13 the university dramatically increased its student enrollment and
14 greatly expanded the number of programs and degrees it offered; in
15 January 2005, Dr. Furgason became the first executive director of
16 the Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies, an endowed
17 research center located at Texas A&M--Corpus Christi and dedicated
18 to the sustainable use and conservation of the Gulf of Mexico; in
19 his role as director, he guided the institute from the planning
20 stages through the construction of its facility, contributed to the
21 development of the institute's mission and scope, and helped select
22 and hire its faculty and staff; he led the institute until his
23 retirement in 2008; and

24 WHEREAS, Dr. Furgason earned a bachelor's and a master's

1 degree in chemical engineering from the University of Idaho; he
2 went on to complete his Ph.D. at Northwestern University, and in
3 2006, the University of Idaho conferred on him an honorary
4 doctorate of administrative science; before becoming president of
5 Texas A&M--Corpus Christi, he served as vice chancellor for
6 academic affairs and professor of chemical engineering at the
7 University of Nebraska--Lincoln; and

8 WHEREAS, The impact of Dr. Furgason's contributions will
9 continue to resonate in the Coastal Bend and the Lone Star State for
10 years to come, and he is indeed worthy of this prestigious accolade;
11 now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
13 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby congratulate Dr. Robert
14 R. Furgason on his induction into the Corpus Christi Business Hall
15 of Fame and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued success;
16 and, be it further

17 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
18 prepared for Dr. Furgason as an expression of high regard by the
19 Texas House of Representatives.