

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The city of Dallas lost an admired civic and  
2 spiritual leader with the passing of Dr. Charles Alvin Maurice  
3 Hunter on June 12, 2011, at the age of 85; and

4           WHEREAS, Born in Longview on May 7, 1926, Charles Hunter  
5 graduated from Bishop College in 1947 and earned a bachelor's  
6 degree in divinity from Howard University; he went on to earn his  
7 master of divinity and doctor of theology degrees from Philadelphia  
8 Divinity School and an additional master's degree from North Texas  
9 State University; after serving as pastor of Trinity Congregational  
10 Churches in Tallahassee, Florida, and Athens, Alabama, he moved to  
11 Dallas and led the Hope, Glendale, and St. Luke Presbyterian  
12 Churches before joining Oak Cliff Presbyterian Church as assistant  
13 pastor; and

14           WHEREAS, Dr. Hunter became the first African American elected  
15 as presiding officer of the Northeast Texas Presbytery and served  
16 as moderator of Grace Presbytery and the Synod of the Sun of the  
17 Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); in addition, he chaired the  
18 peacemaking committee of Grace Presbytery and created its  
19 multicultural conference, which evolved into one of the  
20 denomination's popular national events; he was a mentor to many  
21 people and touched countless lives in other countries through his  
22 mission activities in places such as Nicaragua and Haiti; and

23           WHEREAS, A gifted educator, Dr. Hunter taught sociology at  
24 Bishop College and became department director for both sociology

1 and urban affairs; he also served as an adjunct professor at  
2 Southern Methodist University, The University of Texas at  
3 Arlington, El Centro College, and Richland Community College;  
4 moreover, he taught at the Dallas Police Academy and worked in  
5 research and development for the Dallas Independent School  
6 District; and

7       WHEREAS, One of the first African Americans to run for the  
8 Dallas school board, Dr. Hunter served as a Dallas County precinct  
9 chair and election judge for more than four decades; he began  
10 working to improve race relations in the city in the early 1960s,  
11 and in 1968 he formed the Amigos, a multicultural social  
12 organization that sponsored picnics, movies, potluck dinners, and  
13 other outings to bring together people of diverse ethnicity; while  
14 serving on the board of the Greater Dallas Housing and Opportunity  
15 Center, he developed and conducted surveys of housing patterns to  
16 identify discrimination in the sale and rental of real estate, and  
17 he became one of the first to integrate Oak Cliff; greatly  
18 benefiting his fellow citizens, he gave generously of his time and  
19 expertise as a member of the boards of the Dallas Peace Center, the  
20 Alzheimer's Association of Greater Dallas, the Trinity River  
21 Authority, and the Greater Dallas Community of Churches; he further  
22 served as director of the Common Ground Credit Union and wrote a  
23 column on racial matters for the *Dallas Examiner*; and

24       WHEREAS, In all of his endeavors, Dr. Hunter enjoyed the  
25 affection and support of his loved ones, including his wife, Annie,  
26 and his daughter Alpha, who preceded him in death, as well as his  
27 children Rhonda, Rhashell, Byron, and Rosalyn; and

1           WHEREAS, Dr. Charles Hunter made a lasting, positive impact  
2 in Dallas and beyond, and although he will be deeply missed, his  
3 dedication to his faith, his family, and his community will remain a  
4 lasting source of inspiration to all who were privileged to know  
5 this wise and compassionate Texan; now, therefore, be it

6           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
7 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of  
8 Dr. Charles Alvin Maurice Hunter and extend sincere condolences to  
9 the members of his family: to his children, Rhonda Hunter, the  
10 Reverend Dr. Rhashell Hunter, Byron Hunter, and Rosalyn Hunter; to  
11 his sisters, Delores Simms and Dorothy Griffin; to his brother,  
12 Julian Hunter; to his three grandchildren; and to his other  
13 relatives and friends; and, be it further

14           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
15 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
16 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Dr. Charles  
17 A. Hunter.

Davis of Dallas

H.R. No. 139

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 139 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on June 28, 2011.

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Chief Clerk of the House