

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1           WHEREAS, Members of the Austin Area Urban League are visiting  
2 the State Capitol on May 25, 2011; and

3           WHEREAS, Founded on August 12, 1977, the Austin Area Urban  
4 League is affiliated with the National Urban League, a civil rights  
5 organization that has fought discrimination for more than a  
6 century; the Urban League has contributed immeasurably to social  
7 progress and remains dedicated to the economic empowerment of  
8 historically underserved residents in urban communities; and

9           WHEREAS, The Austin Area Urban League began operations in the  
10 basement of Wesley United Methodist Church; from that humble  
11 beginning, the organization has grown dramatically to meet the  
12 needs of area residents; and

13           WHEREAS, In addition to job readiness training, the group's  
14 Workforce Development program provides GED courses, job search  
15 assistance, and office and life skills instruction; the league  
16 works with 300 employers to help job candidates find suitable  
17 positions, and it conducts after-school computer and technology  
18 classes at four different Housing Authority of Austin sites; and

19           WHEREAS, The organization offers a first-time homebuyer's  
20 class and awards those who complete it a \$1,000 grant toward a down  
21 payment; moreover, it performs hundreds of emergency and scheduled  
22 home repairs annually, free of cost to low-income home owners, and  
23 it partners with some 40 other entities, including Dell, Seton, and  
24 the Meadows Foundation, to further its important goals; and

1           WHEREAS, Today, the Austin Area Urban League remains  
2 fortunate in the continued leadership of many of its esteemed  
3 founders, including the Reverend Freddie Dixon, who was pastor of  
4 Wesley United Methodist Church in 1977 when the church became the  
5 birthplace of the Urban League in Central Texas, and the Honorable  
6 Harriett Murphy, a retired municipal court judge who was a new  
7 attorney working to help found the league in the 1970s; also among  
8 this number are Linda Moore Smith, the organization's first  
9 executive director, who went on to serve the National Urban League  
10 in New York before reprising her role in Austin, and Carolyn Holt  
11 Goldston, a longtime advocate for racial justice and civil rights  
12 and a lifetime member of the organization; continuing the tradition  
13 of excellence established by these local legends are Austin native  
14 Scotty Holman, a financial executive, who serves as the 2010 chair,  
15 and the Honorable Jeffrey K. Richard, who was elected president and  
16 chief executive officer in 2005 and also serves as a trustee for the  
17 Austin Community College District; other noteworthy founders and  
18 longtime members continue to share their wisdom and experience with  
19 the organization and inspire the members of its newest program, the  
20 AAUL Young Professionals; and

21           WHEREAS, Unwavering in its determination to improve race  
22 relations and foster economic and social equality, the Austin Area  
23 Urban League has created an enduring legacy, and its efforts in  
24 behalf of education, employment readiness, wellness, and  
25 affordable housing are greatly benefiting innumerable people and  
26 making a lasting, positive difference in the community; now,  
27 therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, That the 82nd Legislature of the State of Texas  
2 hereby honor the Austin Area Urban League for its outstanding  
3 achievements and extend to its members sincere best wishes for  
4 continued success; and, be it further

5           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
6 prepared for the organization as an expression of high regard by the  
7 Texas House of Representatives and Senate.

Dukes

Straus	Gonzales of Williamson	Morrison
Aliseda	Gonzalez	Munoz, Jr.
Allen	Gooden	Murphy
Alonzo	Guillen	Naishtat
Alvarado	Gutierrez	Nash
Anchia	Hamilton	Oliveira
Anderson of Dallas	Hancock	Orr
Anderson of McLennan	Hardcastle	Otto
Aycock	Harless	Parker
Beck	Harper-Brown	Patrick
Berman	Hartnett	Paxton
Bohac	Hernandez Luna	Pena
Bonnen	Hilderbran	Perry
Branch	Hochberg	Phillips
Brown	Hopson	Pickett
Burkett	Howard of Fort Bend	Pitts
Burnam	Howard of Travis	Price
Button	Huberty	Quintanilla
Cain	Hughes	Raymond
Callegari	Hunter	Reynolds
Carter	Isaac	Riddle
Castro	Jackson	Ritter
Chisum	Johnson	Rodriguez
Christian	Keffer	Schwertner
Coleman	King of Parker	Scott
Cook	King of Taylor	Sheets
Craddick	King of Zavala	Sheffield
Creighton	Kleinschmidt	Shelton
Crownover	Kolkhorst	Simpson
Darby	Kuempel	Smith of Harris
Davis of Dallas	Landtroop	Smith of Tarrant
J. Davis of Harris	Larson	Smithee
S. Davis of Harris	Laubenberg	Solomons
Deshotel	Lavender	Strama
Driver	Legler	Taylor of Collin
Dukes	Lewis	Taylor of Galveston
Dutton	Lozano	Thompson
Eiland	Lucio III	Torres
Eissler	Lyne	Truitt
Elkins	Madden	Turner
Farias	Mallory Caraway	Veasey
Farrar	Margo	Villarreal
Fletcher	Marquez	Vo
Flynn	Martinez	Walle
Frullo	Martinez Fischer	Weber
Gallego	McClendon	White
Garza	Menendez	Woolley
Geren	Miles	Workman
Giddings	Miller of Comal	Zedler
Gonzales of Hidalgo	Miller of Erath	Zerwas

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 153 was adopted by the House on May 19, 2011, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 153 was adopted by the Senate on May 25, 2011, by a viva-voce vote.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Date

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Governor