

By: Dutton

H.R. No. 631

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Fifth Ward Enrichment Program of Houston is
2 receiving the Outstanding Community Leader Award at the scholarship
3 banquet of the African American Legislative Summit in Austin on
4 February 28, 2011; and

5 WHEREAS, Presented by the Texas Legislative Black Caucus, the
6 award recognizes the efforts of FWEP to empower at-risk inner-city
7 males between the ages of 12 and 19 to become responsible and
8 productive members of their families and their community; and

9 WHEREAS, Founded in 1984, FWEP relies on an all-male staff to
10 serve as site coordinators in six Fifth Ward schools, where they
11 interact daily throughout the school year, as well as during a
12 seven-week summer program, with approximately 250 youth; the staff
13 serve as important role models and stress the value of education,
14 self-restraint, and goal-setting; and

15 WHEREAS, In addition to school-based projects, FWEP provides
16 group counseling, life skills workshops, and one-on-one mentoring,
17 all as part of a system of positive reinforcement to help
18 participants direct their energy toward meaningful and
19 constructive endeavors; FWEP youth also benefit from peer health
20 educators and a Teen Enterprise Center, which develops
21 entrepreneurial skills; moreover, the parent and family liaison
22 coordinates and mentors the parents and guardians of participants;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, For more than 25 years, the Fifth Ward Enrichment

1 Program has introduced countless young people to the values of
2 discipline, self-esteem, and personal accountability, and it is
3 truly deserving of special recognition for its holistic and
4 effective approach to youth development; now, therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
6 Legislature hereby congratulate the Fifth Ward Enrichment Program
7 on its receipt of the 2011 Outstanding Community Leader Award from
8 the Texas Legislative Black Caucus and extend to the program's
9 staff sincere best wishes for continued success with their
10 important work; and, be it further

11 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
12 prepared for FWEP as an expression of high regard by the Texas House
13 of Representatives.