

By: Veasey

H.R. No. 1484

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Admired Fort Worth coach and athletic administrator  
2 Gerald Beal passed away on April 15, 2011, at the age of 77, leaving  
3 his loved ones to reflect on a life that was rich in meaningful  
4 accomplishments; and

5 WHEREAS, A native of Marshall, Mr. Beal graduated in 1954  
6 from Bishop College where he played football and basketball; he  
7 subsequently was hired by Kirkpatrick High School in the Fort Worth  
8 Independent School District as a teacher and coach, and in both 1962  
9 and 1963, he led the school's football team to state championships  
10 in the Prairie View Interscholastic League, what was then the  
11 state's governing body for African American high schools; to this  
12 day, Kirkpatrick's PVIL victory remains the last state-level  
13 athletic win by a school in FWISD; and

14 WHEREAS, Coach Beal went on to serve on the faculty at I. M.  
15 Terrell High School, finishing his coaching career in 1971 with an  
16 overall record of 109 wins, 36 losses, and 2 ties, as well as the 2  
17 state crowns; the following year, he became the district's first  
18 African American assistant athletic director, and he continued to  
19 distinguish himself in that role before retiring in 1996; his  
20 outstanding achievements in high school sports were recognized with  
21 his induction into the Texas Black Sports Hall of Fame and the Texas  
22 High School Athletic Directors Association Hall of Honor; and

23 WHEREAS, A man of strong faith, Mr. Beal was an active member  
24 of the East St. Paul Baptist Church, where he was a deacon and a

1 member of the choir; he was also active in his community as a member  
2 of the Optimist Club, the Ambassadors Club, and other  
3 organizations; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Beal was supported in his endeavors by his wife,  
5 the former Harlean Berry, a fellow Bishop College graduate and  
6 public school educator; the couple married in 1955 and shared more  
7 than half a century until Mrs. Beal's death in 2008; together they  
8 were blessed with two children, Ronald and Cheryl, as well as two  
9 grandchildren; and

10 WHEREAS, Gerald Beal lived a full and generous life centered  
11 around his family, his faith, and his profession, and he will long  
12 be remembered with deep affection by all those who were privileged  
13 to know him; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
15 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Gerald Beal and  
16 extend sincere condolences to the members of his family: to his son,  
17 Ronald Beal; to his daughter, Cheryl Beal Anderson; to his  
18 grandchildren; and to his other relatives and friends; and, be it  
19 further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
21 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
22 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Gerald  
23 Beal.