

By: Gonzalez

H.R. No. 1775

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Donald Leon Williams has greatly benefited the Black  
2 El Paso Democrats through his strong leadership as chair; and

3           WHEREAS, A charter member of the Black El Paso Democrats, Don  
4 Williams became chair in 2005; he has worked tirelessly through the  
5 years to motivate African Americans in El Paso to participate in the  
6 political process, and he is diligent in his efforts to bring  
7 factions together to strive for common goals; he is a member of the  
8 Camino Real Mexican American Democrats, Paso del Norte Tejano  
9 Democrats, Stonewall Democrats, and other Democratic groups as  
10 well; currently serving as State Democratic Executive Committeeman  
11 for Senatorial District 29, he has served as a delegate to precinct,  
12 county, state, and national conventions; in 2007, he was inducted  
13 into the El Paso Democratic Hall of Fame; and

14           WHEREAS, Mr. Williams was born in Houston on May 22, 1951, and  
15 graduated from W.H. Burges High School in El Paso; after attending  
16 the United States Military Academy at West Point, he completed his  
17 bachelor's degree in political science at The University of Texas  
18 at El Paso and earned his law degree from The University of Texas at  
19 Austin School of Law; he was named a Distinguished Military Student  
20 and Graduate by the Army ROTC and went on to serve as an officer in  
21 the Judge Advocate General's Corps for five years, rising to become  
22 senior defense counsel at Fort Bliss; and

23           WHEREAS, In 1983, Mr. Williams established a solo legal  
24 practice, which today focuses on family law for members of the

1 military; he has been an associate municipal court judge, criminal  
2 law magistrate, and family court judge, and he has also taught  
3 courses in the Legal Assistant Division at El Paso Community  
4 College; since 1994, he has served as an advanced family law  
5 mediator; and

6         WHEREAS, This dynamic Texan is a member of the College of the  
7 State Bar of Texas and has given generously of his time and talents  
8 to numerous professional organizations; a former member of the  
9 board of the El Paso Bar Association, he was president of the El  
10 Paso Family Law Bar Association and chair of the Family Law Bar  
11 Association executive committee, and he has served on several State  
12 Bar of Texas committees; moreover, he has been a presenter for  
13 numerous programs of the State Bar and other organizations, and he  
14 has directed several courses and written many articles, handbooks,  
15 and other publications; and

16         WHEREAS, Deeply committed to his community, Mr. Williams is a  
17 graduate of Leadership El Paso and served on the board of its alumni  
18 association; he is the first vice president of the El Paso Branch of  
19 the NAACP and serves on the El Paso Community College Diversity  
20 Council, on the board of the McCall Neighborhood Center, and on the  
21 UT-El Paso College of Liberal Arts Advisory Board; demonstrating  
22 his concern for young Texans, he has served as president of the  
23 Pebble Hills Elementary PTA, and he volunteered for the Juvenile  
24 Drug Court of the 409th District Court; in 2007, he established the  
25 Donald L. Williams Endowed Student Enhancement Fund at UT-El Paso;  
26 he is a charter member of St. Peter Missionary Baptist Church and  
27 has served in a number of capacities, including chair of the church

1 board; and

2 WHEREAS, The recipient of myriad accolades, Mr. Williams was  
3 accorded the inaugural President's Award of the El Paso Branch of  
4 the NAACP in 2007 and received that organization's Community  
5 Service Award the following year; he has received both the Majority  
6 Builder Award and the Grassroots Award from the State Democratic  
7 Executive Committee, and he has been recognized by the El Paso  
8 Commission for Women for his community service; and

9 WHEREAS, Don Williams has led the Black El Paso Democrats  
10 with enormous energy, talent, and dedication, and he has set an  
11 example of civic engagement to which others may aspire; now,  
12 therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
14 Legislature hereby honor Donald Leon Williams for his service as  
15 chair of the Black El Paso Democrats and extend to him sincere best  
16 wishes for continued success; and, be it further

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