

By: Reynolds

H.R. No. 2625

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Gary Bledsoe of Austin has served as president of  
2 the Texas NAACP for two decades, during which time he has changed  
3 many lives for the better through his outstanding leadership; and

4           WHEREAS, A graduate of The University of Texas and the UT  
5 School of Law, Mr. Bledsoe works tirelessly in behalf of civil  
6 rights; he has served as a member of the national board of the NAACP  
7 since 2003 and is currently chair of the organization's National  
8 Criminal Justice Committee; Mr. Bledsoe's efforts to fight racial  
9 discrimination have helped to bring down employment barriers for  
10 minorities and women, furthered the cause of equal treatment of  
11 minority youth under the law, and secured funding of a scholarship  
12 program for college-bound minority youth; Mr. Bledsoe also helped  
13 to negotiate with HEB for the establishment of scholarships for  
14 students attending Texas Southern University, Prairie View A&M  
15 University, and Huston-Tillotson University; and

16           WHEREAS, This accomplished leader is a former assistant  
17 attorney general for the State of Texas who is now in private  
18 practice, focusing on public interest, civil rights, and employment  
19 law; he has received lawyer-of-the-year awards from the Texas  
20 Attorney General, the Travis County Bar Association, the NAACP, the  
21 Austin Area Urban League, and other organizations; moreover, he has  
22 been accorded the Kelly Alexander State President of the Year  
23 Award, the Juanita Jackson Mitchell Award for Legal Advocacy, and  
24 the Benjamin Hooks Keeper of the Flame Award, among other

1 accolades; in March 2011, he was reappointed as a regent of Texas  
2 Southern University; and

3 WHEREAS, Gary Bledsoe has guided the Texas NAACP with  
4 exceptional skill and dedication, furthering its mission to  
5 eliminate race-based discrimination and ensure equality of rights  
6 for all; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
8 Legislature hereby honor Gary Bledsoe for his 20 years of service as  
9 president of the Texas NAACP and extend to him sincere best wishes  
10 for continued success; and, be it further

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