

By: Branch

H.R. No. 22

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, William Powers, Jr., president of The University of
2 Texas at Austin, has been honored in two diverse areas of endeavor,
3 winning an award for legal scholarship as well as being elected vice
4 chair of an association of preeminent research universities; and

5 WHEREAS, Widely recognized as a leading American legal
6 scholar, Bill Powers is a 2012 corecipient of the prestigious John
7 G. Fleming Memorial Prize for Torts Scholarship; he was awarded the
8 prize for his definitive interpretations of juridical concepts and
9 for coauthoring a treatise on the general principles of tort law;
10 his extensive writing on personal injury and emotional damages is
11 considered one of the major achievements of modern jurisprudence;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Respected for his leadership on issues related to
14 higher education, President Powers was recently elected vice chair
15 of the Association of American Universities; programs developed by
16 the AAU encourage improved funding for research to enable leading
17 universities to continue functioning as centers of innovation and
18 scientific advancement; with his successful record as an advocate
19 for undergraduate and graduate education, he enriches the AAU,
20 bringing his expertise and keen intellect to bear on the critical
21 task of maintaining financial resources for programs of advanced
22 learning; and

23 WHEREAS, President Powers graduated magna cum laude from
24 Harvard Law School, where he was managing editor of the *Harvard Law*

1 Review; he joined the faculty at The University of Texas School of
2 Law in 1977 and taught with distinction before being appointed as
3 dean in 2000; he has been named to UT's Academy of Distinguished
4 Teachers, is a University Distinguished Teaching Professor, and
5 holds the Hines H. Baker and Thelma Kelley Baker Chair in Law; on
6 February 1, 2006, he took office as president of The University of
7 Texas at Austin; and

8 WHEREAS, A Life Fellow of the American Bar Foundation and the
9 author of dozens of books and articles on legal philosophy and the
10 nuances of tort law, he has shared his considerable skills while
11 serving on the boards of the National Center for Educational
12 Accountability, the Council of Public University Presidents and
13 Chancellors, the Lyndon Baines Johnson Foundation, and the Big 12
14 Conference; and

15 WHEREAS, His dedication to a clear understanding of legal
16 principles and the means by which they are translated into law has
17 made Bill Powers a well-known and admired figure in the world of
18 jurisprudence; moreover, his commitment to the betterment of higher
19 education through student diversity, increased funding, and
20 curriculum innovation establishes him as a pacesetter in the realm
21 of public university leaders; now, therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
23 Legislature hereby congratulate William Powers, Jr., of The
24 University of Texas at Austin on his receipt of the John G. Fleming
25 Memorial Prize for Torts Scholarship and on his election as vice
26 chair of the Association of American Universities and extend to him
27 sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

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1 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
2 prepared for President Powers as an expression of high regard by the
3 Texas House of Representatives.