

By: Giddings

H.R. No. 347

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Bertha Hilburn is being honored by the congregation
2 of St. Luke "Community" United Methodist Church of Dallas on
3 February 17, 2013, as a Senior Saint of Wisdom; and

4 WHEREAS, A faithful member of the church, Mrs. Hilburn is
5 also a longtime resident of Dallas; she served as a nurse's aide at
6 Parkland Hospital in 1941 before assembling airplane parts during
7 World War II; following the conclusion of the war, she returned to
8 Parkland as a nurse, and, hoping to help single mothers find work,
9 she opened the city's first licensed nursery for African Americans;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, In the late 1940s, Mrs. Hilburn and her husband
12 moved to South Dallas and purchased an apartment building that had
13 originally served as a small hospital specializing in care for
14 unwed mothers; Mrs. Hilburn operated the building as a residential
15 hotel for African Americans, one of the first in the city, and
16 raised her family there; and

17 WHEREAS, Along the way, Bertha Hilburn worked as a physical
18 therapy assistant with the Dallas public schools, and later on she
19 was employed by the Dallas Easter Seal Society; recently, her
20 daughter Vanessa Baker took steps to have the building owned by her
21 mother designated as a local historic landmark; and

22 WHEREAS, This beloved Texan has touched the hearts of many
23 throughout her life, and it is a pleasure to join in wishing her
24 well and honoring her for her long record of service to others; now,

1 therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
3 Legislature hereby congratulate Bertha Hilburn on her selection as
4 a Senior Saint of Wisdom by St. Luke "Community" United Methodist
5 Church of Dallas and extend to her sincere best wishes for continued
6 happiness; and, be it further

7 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
8 prepared for Mrs. Hilburn as an expression of high regard by the
9 Texas House of Representatives.