

By: Davis of Dallas

H.R. No. 645

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Mary Lynn Morris is retiring from the Dallas
2 Marshal's Office on March 5, 2013, drawing to a close a notable
3 career in public service that has spanned nearly three decades; and

4 WHEREAS, After graduating from Wilmer-Hutchins High School,
5 Mary Morris joined the City of Dallas as a clerk in 1984, and in
6 1986, she completed her training with the Regional Police Academy
7 and became the first African American woman ever hired by the Dallas
8 Marshal's Office; her duties as a deputy marshal included
9 transferring prisoners, enforcing warrants, and participating in
10 special task forces; she was promoted to sergeant in 1991 and to
11 chief deputy in 1999; and

12 WHEREAS, In 2004, Ms. Morris became the assistant director of
13 the Department of Code Compliance, and during this time she also
14 worked as a reserve chief deputy constable; when she returned to the
15 Dallas Marshal's Office as city marshal in 2008, she earned the
16 further distinction of becoming the first woman and the first
17 African American to hold that position; in addition, she has served
18 on a number of state and federal committees and received a lifetime
19 membership with the Texas Police Chiefs Association; and

20 WHEREAS, Marshal Morris holds a bachelor's degree in
21 political science from Dallas Baptist University and an associate's
22 degree in criminal justice from El Centro College; she is a licensed
23 Master Peace Officer and has been certified as a law enforcement
24 instructor and a defensive driving instructor; and

1 WHEREAS, In addition to her professional responsibilities,
2 this dynamic woman has found time to give back to her community
3 through her support of the Children and Family Shelter, the Bridge
4 of Hope Foundation, the YMCA, the American Society for the
5 Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and the Hospice Foundation of
6 America; and

7 WHEREAS, Mary Morris's dedication, professionalism, and
8 commitment to preserving the safety of the public have greatly
9 benefited the people of Dallas and earned her the respect and
10 admiration of her fellow peace officers, and she may indeed reflect
11 with pride on a career well spent; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
13 Legislature hereby congratulate City Marshal Mary Lynn Morris on
14 her retirement and extend to her sincere best wishes for continued
15 success and happiness; and, be it further

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