

By: Davis of Dallas

H.R. No. 1333

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Wright Lassiter, Jr., has announced plans to  
2 retire as chancellor of the Dallas County Community College  
3 District, drawing to a close a tenure marked by considerable  
4 progress and achievement; and

5 WHEREAS, The sixth chancellor to lead the district, Dr.  
6 Lassiter has presided over one of the largest community college  
7 systems in the state; since taking office in 2006, he has overseen a  
8 20 percent increase in student enrollment and the completion of a  
9 \$450 million bond program, which added five new campuses in  
10 fast-growing or underserved areas of Dallas County; the program has  
11 additionally funded the construction of an array of  
12 state-of-the-art facilities throughout the district's seven  
13 colleges, including several that have been recognized with  
14 architectural design and sustainability awards; and

15 WHEREAS, Dr. Lassiter studied business administration at  
16 Alcorn State University and Indiana University, earning  
17 undergraduate and master's degrees from those respective  
18 institutions, and he holds a doctorate in education from Auburn  
19 University; his extensive experience in university administration  
20 includes a 20-year tenure as president of El Centro College, a  
21 component of the DCCCD, and terms as president of Bishop College in  
22 Dallas and Schenectady County Community College in New York; he has  
23 additionally held posts managing business and financial matters at  
24 Morgan State University in Maryland and at Tuskegee University in

1 Alabama; and

2           WHEREAS, Along with his professional endeavors, Dr. Lassiter  
3 has benefited the community through his work with many civic  
4 organizations; he has chaired the boards of both the Urban League of  
5 Greater Dallas and North Central Texas and the African American  
6 Museum, and he has served on the boards of Southwestern Medical  
7 Foundation, the United Way of Metropolitan Dallas, the YMCA  
8 Foundation, and the State Fair of Texas; he has also held a seat on  
9 the advisory boards at Baylor University and Auburn University, and  
10 in 2002 he was appointed by President George W. Bush to the National  
11 Advisory Council of the National Endowment for the Humanities; and

12           WHEREAS, This distinguished educator has received numerous  
13 accolades over the course of his career, among them the 2010 Russell  
14 H. Perry Free Enterprise Award from Dallas Baptist University, a  
15 prize that recognizes achievements in business and civic service;  
16 moreover, he has been elected to the Indiana University Academy of  
17 Alumni Fellows, and he was recently inducted into the African  
18 American Educators Hall of Fame in Dallas; and

19           WHEREAS, Dr. Lassiter's adept and forward-looking leadership  
20 has helped to guide the Dallas County Community College District  
21 through a transformative period in its history, and his many  
22 valuable contributions will continue to garner appreciation in the  
23 years to come; now, therefore, be it

24           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
25 Legislature hereby congratulate Dr. Wright Lassiter, Jr., on his  
26 forthcoming retirement as chancellor of the Dallas County Community  
27 College District and extend to him sincere best wishes for the

1 future; and, be it further

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