

By: Wu

H.R. No. 1599

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Mariam Issa of Houston has rendered exceptional
2 service to her fellow residents through her involvement in myriad
3 philanthropic organizations; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in India and raised in Pakistan, Ms. Issa also
5 lived in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, before settling in the United
6 States; since moving to Houston some two decades ago, she has not
7 only contributed to the community as a business owner but has
8 continuously found ways to help make the city a better place in
9 which to live; and

10 WHEREAS, Ms. Issa founded the Pakistani-American Volunteers
11 Association to share the rich heritage of Pakistan and to aid those
12 in need; under her leadership, the organization has participated in
13 projects with the March of Dimes, the Rehab Mission to feed the
14 homeless, the Houston International Festival, the Asian Arts
15 Festival, and the House of Charity; in addition, she has helped
16 Bosnian and Afghan refugee families settle in the area; following
17 the tragedy of September 11, 2001, she worked with the board members
18 of PAVA to raise \$40,000 from the Pakistani community for Red Cross
19 relief efforts; and

20 WHEREAS, Among the numerous other groups that have benefited
21 from Ms. Issa's time and talents over the years are the
22 Asian/Pacific American Heritage Association, the Asia Society, the
23 South Asian Chamber of Commerce, the Mayoral Advisory Board for
24 International Affairs and Development--Asia, the Asian-American

1 Voters Coalition, and the Pakistan Association of Greater Houston,
2 as well as Express Theatre, the Blaffer Gallery at the University of
3 Houston, the Ancestral Films Festival, and the AsiaWorld-Expo;
4 moreover, this dynamic humanitarian has served on committees and
5 advisory councils for UNICEF, the Houston Independent School
6 District, the Asian American Studies Program at the University of
7 Houston, and Census 2000; and

8 WHEREAS, Ms. Issa has received numerous accolades for her
9 civic engagement, including an award from the City of Houston for
10 her continued service to the Pakistani community and the Paul
11 Harris Award from the Rotary Club for a project she led that
12 delivered 69 hand pumps to two provinces in Pakistan that did not
13 have drinking water; and

14 WHEREAS, Through a lifetime of purposeful endeavor, Mariam
15 Issa has made a lasting and positive difference in the lives of
16 countless people, and in so doing, she has set an inspiring example
17 of compassion and generosity; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
19 Legislature hereby honor Mariam Issa for her outstanding civic and
20 humanitarian contributions and extend to her sincere best wishes
21 for continued success; and, be it further

22 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
23 prepared for Ms. Issa as an expression of high regard by the Texas
24 House of Representatives.