

By: Turner of Harris

H.R. No. 528

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Honorable Harold V. Dutton Jr. of House District
2 142 is celebrating his 70th birthday on February 17, 2015, and this
3 milestone offers a welcome opportunity to recognize him for his
4 distinguished record of public service; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in Houston's Fifth Ward, Harold Dutton received
6 his diploma from Phillis Wheatley High School before attending
7 Texas Southern University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in
8 accounting; he later graduated from the university's Thurgood
9 Marshall School of Law and became an adjunct faculty member of the
10 institution; and

11 WHEREAS, Representative Dutton has enjoyed a varied career in
12 which he has served as executive director of the Julia C. Hester
13 House and worked for Conoco, Inc., holding management positions in
14 corporate planning and economic analysis; he has also served as
15 president of Four Star Broadcasting, which began operating an
16 independent television station in the Houston area in 1986; as an
17 attorney, he is the founder of a law firm whose practice specialties
18 include civil rights, personal injury, and employment
19 discrimination; and

20 WHEREAS, A lifelong Democrat and a member of the Texas
21 Legislature since 1985, Representative Dutton was returned to
22 office for a 16th successive term in 2014; he currently chairs the
23 House Committee on Juvenile Justice and Family Issues and sits on
24 the House Public Education Committee, on which he is the

1 longest-serving member, as well as on the Sunset Advisory
2 Commission; his legislative career has additionally seen him
3 assigned to committees on urban affairs, insurance, ethics,
4 education finance, and corrections, and he has held membership in
5 the House Democratic Caucus and the Texas Legislative Black Caucus
6 and chaired the Harris County delegation; and

7 WHEREAS, This esteemed Texan can take justifiable pride in
8 his many significant legislative achievements, among them his
9 successful sponsorship of the state's first statutory program to
10 assist businesses owned by women and minorities, initiatives to
11 enhance public education, and incentives to increase the
12 availability of affordable insurance in underserved areas; his
13 contributions have won him recognition from a wide range of
14 organizations, including the American Civil Liberties Union, the
15 Texas Women's Political Caucus, the United States Small Business
16 Administration, and the Texas Association of African American
17 Chambers of Commerce; and

18 WHEREAS, Representative Harold Dutton has worked diligently
19 to promote responsible and equitable public policy that serves the
20 needs of the people, and his longevity in office speaks to the high
21 esteem in which he is held by his constituents; as he embarks on a
22 new decade and on a new legislative session, it is a distinct
23 pleasure to join with his other friends and colleagues in
24 commemorating this special day; now, therefore, be it

25 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
26 Legislature hereby congratulate the Honorable Harold V. Dutton Jr.
27 on the occasion of his 70th birthday and warmly commend him for his

1 outstanding commitment to his fellow Texans; and, be it further

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