

By: Dutton

H.R. No. 856

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The 80th birthday of an esteemed Texan is indeed a
2 special occasion, and Marguerite Smith Latson of Houston is
3 celebrating this momentous milestone in her life on March 21, 2015;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, A native and lifetime resident of the Bayou City's
6 Fifth Ward, the former Marguerite Smith was born in 1935 to Charlie
7 and Hattie Smith and enjoyed the companionship of 12 siblings
8 growing up; she attended Bruce Elementary School and graduated with
9 honors from Phillis Wheatley High School in 1953; and

10 WHEREAS, She married Ezekiel Latson, and together they
11 nurtured a fulfilling marriage of nearly a half-century until his
12 passing; she spent many years caring for their home and raising
13 their 13 children, Derrick, Reginald, Masha, Farley, Ray, Kelvin,
14 Cynthia, Craig, Lisa, Vincent, Jeffrey, Sherri, and Jocelyn, and
15 Mrs. Latson also helped care for her nieces, Kim, Terry, Angela,
16 and Emily, in the family home; today, she is the proud matriarch of
17 a family that includes her grandchildren and great-grandchildren;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, Devoted to her Christian faith, Mrs. Latson sang in
20 the choir at New Testament Baptist Church in her youth, and later
21 worshipped at Greater Mount Olive and Watts Chapel Baptist
22 Churches; for the last several decades, she has been a valued and
23 active member of Bringham Street Good News Church, led by her son,
24 Senior Pastor Jeffrey Latson; she currently serves on the pastoral

1 support team and holds the title of church mother, and she has been
2 recognized for her service to the congregation with Mother of the
3 Year honors in 1982 and 1997; and

4 WHEREAS, This esteemed woman has also demonstrated her
5 commitment to her wider community by mentoring young people in the
6 Hutton Street neighborhood; moreover, she was actively involved in
7 her children's academic lives, volunteering her time to the Houston
8 Independent School District and becoming the first African American
9 woman on the HISD Parental Advisory Board; and

10 WHEREAS, Dedicated to her family and fellow residents,
11 Marguerite Latson may reflect with pride on her eight decades of
12 life well lived, and it is indeed a pleasure to join with her
13 friends and loved ones in honoring her on this memorable occasion;
14 now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
16 Legislature hereby congratulate Marguerite Latson on her 80th
17 birthday and extend to her sincere best wishes for continued
18 happiness; and, be it further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
20 prepared for Mrs. Latson as an expression of high regard by the
21 Texas House of Representatives.