

By: Herrero

H.R. No. 1554

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The year 2015 marks the 40th anniversary of the
2 naming of Dr. Gloria Dean Randle Scott as the first African
3 American president of the Girl Scouts of America, an event that
4 signaled a new era of progress for the national youth organization;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Born and raised in Houston, Gloria Scott was a
7 member of Junior Girl Scout Troop No. 155 at Jack Yates Secondary
8 School, at a time when segregation was still rampant; her early
9 experiences in scouting helped her develop leadership skills, and
10 she eventually served as president of the Negro Girl Scout Senior
11 Planning Board in the 1950s; and

12 WHEREAS, After graduating from high school in 1955, Ms. Scott
13 pursued her studies at Indiana University, where she earned a
14 bachelor's and a master's degree before completing her Ph.D. in
15 education; while attending Indiana University, she served as a
16 research associate in genetics and embryology at its Institute of
17 Psychiatric Research; she also taught biology at Marian College
18 during this time, becoming the first African American instructor at
19 a predominately white institution in Indianapolis; later, she
20 served as deputy director of the Upward Bound program in Knoxville
21 and in several administrative and planning positions at North
22 Carolina A&T State University; and

23 WHEREAS, From 1975 to 1978, Dr. Scott led the Girl Scouts of
24 America as president, and throughout her tenure, she worked

1 diligently to further the goals of the organization and to foster
2 cooperation with international scouting groups; in the final year
3 of her presidency, the Girl Scouts adopted its iconic trefoil logo,
4 which features the stylized silhouettes of three girls as a symbol
5 of diversity; and

6 WHEREAS, This dynamic woman went on to assume other
7 administrative posts at Texas Southern University in Houston and
8 Clark College in Atlanta, until 1987, when she was appointed
9 president of Bennett College, a historically black women's college
10 in Greensboro, North Carolina; she retired from that office in 2001
11 and today resides in Corpus Christi; and

12 WHEREAS, Dr. Scott's pioneering work has been recognized
13 with a long list of accolades over the years; the recipient of six
14 honorary degrees, she was also conferred the Urban League Star
15 Award, the 2009 Star of Texas Award, and League of Women Voters
16 awards in 2008 and 2010; and

17 WHEREAS, In addition to her membership in Delta Sigma Theta
18 Sorority, Dr. Scott has been deeply involved in her community and
19 chaired the Corpus Christi Juneteenth Coalition for several years;
20 she serves as president of G. Randle Services, a consulting firm,
21 and is active in the Corpus Christi Black Chamber of Commerce; in
22 2005, she successfully brought a federal lawsuit to prevent the
23 demolition of Solomon Coles High School, and in the decade since,
24 she has led the school's PTA and participated extensively in
25 volunteer efforts benefiting the school and its students; and

26 WHEREAS, An inspiring role model for women and girls
27 everywhere, Dr. Gloria Dean Randle Scott contributed greatly to the

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1 stature of the Girl Scouts while blazing a trail of achievement in
2 multiple areas of endeavor, and her remarkable service is indeed
3 worthy of special reflection and praise; now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
5 Legislature hereby commemorate the 40th anniversary of the naming
6 of Dr. Gloria Dean Randle Scott as president of the Girl Scouts of
7 America and pay special tribute to Dr. Scott's admirable record of
8 accomplishment.