

By: Klick

H.R. No. 1687

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Gayle P. Varnell of Larue became the first nurse
2 practitioner licensed in Texas on November 5, 1980; and

3 WHEREAS, Now a nursing consultant for education for the Texas
4 Board of Nursing, Ms. Varnell holds bachelor's and master's degrees
5 in nursing from The University of Texas at Austin and a doctorate in
6 nursing from Texas Woman's University; she began her career as a
7 staff nurse with the Austin-Travis County Health and Human Services
8 Department and became a pediatric nurse practitioner at Austin
9 Children's Clinic; and

10 WHEREAS, Ms. Varnell later contributed to the advancement of
11 her profession as a pediatric nurse educator at Children's Medical
12 Center in Dallas and as a nursing instructor and coordinator at
13 Dallas Community College; after moving to the Tyler area, she was
14 employed as a pediatric nurse practitioner at the UT Health
15 Northeast-Cystic Fibrosis Clinic and Total HealthCare Center, and
16 for 16 years she was a member of the faculty at The University of
17 Texas at Tyler, where she served as assistant dean for advanced
18 practice; she was also a member of the adjunct faculty at Texas Tech
19 University; and

20 WHEREAS, Over the years, Ms. Varnell has published numerous
21 articles in scholarly journals, and she has made many presentations
22 to professional groups; she has served on a host of professional and
23 higher education committees, and she has benefited numerous
24 organizations in leadership roles; since 2009, she has chaired the

1 board of the Lake Country Area Health Education Center, and she is a
2 former president of the East Texas Nurse Practitioner Association
3 and a former chair of the East Texas Consortium for Evidence-Based
4 Practice; and

5 WHEREAS, This dynamic Texan is a fellow in the National
6 Association of Pediatric Nurse Associates and Practitioners and a
7 member of the Sigma Theta Tau International and Phi Kappa Phi honor
8 societies; her other professional affiliations include the
9 American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, the National Organization
10 of Nurse Practitioner Faculty, and the National Association of
11 Pediatric Nurse Practitioners; and

12 WHEREAS, Throughout her long and noteworthy career, Gayle
13 Varnell has distinguished herself through her deep commitment to
14 professional development, and as she approaches the 35th
15 anniversary of her licensure, it is indeed fitting to recognize her
16 accomplishments; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
18 Legislature hereby honor Gayle Varnell for her contributions as a
19 nurse practitioner and educator and extend to her sincere best
20 wishes for the future; and, be it further

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