

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Those Texans who give generously of their time and
2 talents to benefit the larger community make the world a better
3 place through their actions and their example, and Dr. Paula
4 Francis-Richardson of Port Arthur is one such person; and

5 WHEREAS, A native of Port Arthur, Dr. Francis-Richardson
6 graduated from Abraham Lincoln High School; she pursued her higher
7 education at Texas Southern University, where she earned her degree
8 and became involved in the Houston Voter Registration Project; she
9 later went on to complete her Ph.D. in humanities at Shreveport
10 Bible College; and

11 WHEREAS, Dr. Francis-Richardson was employed as a program
12 consultant in the governor's office, overseeing the Job Training
13 Partnership Act in five regions, and she later worked with
14 proprietary schools for the Texas Education Agency; she returned to
15 her hometown in 1993 and began her career in the classroom, serving
16 as a teacher with the Port Arthur Independent School District; and

17 WHEREAS, This esteemed educator established the Tekoa
18 Academy of Accelerated Studies in August 1999, originally serving
19 students from kindergarten through sixth grade; today, the school
20 operates an additional campus in Orange and provides a
21 comprehensive education to pre-K through 12th grade students;
22 moreover, Dr. Francis-Richardson's valuable knowledge and
23 expertise leading Tekoa have helped the institution earn STEM
24 school recognition from the state comptroller's office; and

1 WHEREAS, Respected within her profession,
2 Dr. Francis-Richardson is a member of a number of worthwhile
3 organizations, including the Association for Supervision and
4 Curriculum Development and the Texas Charter School Association;
5 she has participated in the Brookings Institution executive
6 leadership program and the National Political Congress of Black
7 Women, and she is a lifetime member of the NAACP; in addition, she
8 has served area citizens through her tenure as vice president of the
9 Port Arthur Economic Development Corporation; and

10 WHEREAS, Dr. Francis-Richardson has demonstrated an
11 exceptional commitment to providing many Texans with a strong
12 academic foundation on which to build, and it is a privilege to
13 honor her for her accomplishments; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
15 Legislature hereby commend Dr. Paula Francis-Richardson on her
16 outstanding contributions to the betterment of her community and
17 extend to her sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
19 prepared for Dr. Francis-Richardson as an expression of high regard
20 by the Texas House of Representatives.

Deshotel

Straus	González	Paddie
Allen	Guerra	Parker
Alonzo	Guillen	Paul
Alvarado	Gutierrez	Peña
Anchia	Harless	Phelan
Anderson of Dallas	Hernandez	Phillips
Anderson of McLennan	Herrero	Pickett
Ashby	Howard	Price
Aycock	Huberty	Raney
Bell	Hughes	Raymond
Bernal	Hunter	Reynolds
Blanco	Isaac	Riddle
Bohac	Israel	Rinaldi
Bonnen of Brazoria	Johnson	Rodriguez of Bexar
Bonnen of Galveston	Kacal	Rodriguez of Travis
Burkett	Keffer	Romero, Jr.
Burns	Keough	Rose
Burrows	King of Hemphill	Sanford
Button	King of Parker	Schaefer
Canales	King of Taylor	Schofield
Capriglione	King of Uvalde	Schubert
Clardy	Klick	Shaheen
Coleman	Koop	Sheets
Collier	Krause	Sheffield
Cook	Kuempel	Simmons
Craddick	Landgraf	Simpson
Crownover	Larson	Smith
Cyrier	Laubenberg	Smithee
Dale	Leach	Spitzer
Darby	Longoria	Springer
Davis of Dallas	Lozano	Stephenson
Davis of Harris	Lucio III	Stickland
Deshotel	Márquez	Thompson of Brazoria
Dukes	Martinez	Thompson of Harris
Dutton	Martinez Fischer	Tinderholt
Elkins	McClendon	Turner of Collin
Faircloth	Metcalf	Turner of Harris
Fallon	Meyer	Turner of Tarrant
Farias	Miles	VanDeaver
Farney	Miller of Comal	Villalba
Farrar	Miller of Fort Bend	Vo
Fletcher	Moody	Walle
Flynn	Morrison	White of Bell
Frank	Muñoz, Jr.	White of Tyler
Frullo	Murphy	Workman
Galindo	Murr	Wray
Geren	Naishtat	Wu
Giddings	Nevárez	Zedler
Goldman	Oliveira	Zerwas
Gonzales	Otto	

H.R. No. 1978

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1978 was adopted by the House on April 15, 2015, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House