

By: Villalba

H.R. No. 402

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Gordon Echtenkamp has retired from his role as
2 president and CEO of the YMCA of Metropolitan Dallas after four
3 decades of outstanding service to the YMCA organization; and

4 WHEREAS, A native of Fremont, Nebraska, Gordon Echtenkamp
5 spent countless childhood hours at the local YMCA, where he went on
6 to become a youth club leader in his teens; in 1976, he began his
7 professional career with the organization, and over the next 26
8 years, he worked at YMCA locations in Kansas City, Memphis,
9 Houston, Phoenix, and Des Moines; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Echtenkamp joined the YMCA of Metropolitan
11 Dallas as its president and CEO in January 2002; over the course of
12 his distinguished tenure, the organization served more than 300,000
13 residents of the greater Dallas area, with 4,500 children
14 participating each day in its after-school and camp programs; under
15 Mr. Echtenkamp's leadership, the organization's fund-raising
16 efforts generated more than \$110 million, in addition to capital
17 development initiatives totaling \$80 million in contributions for
18 new YMCA facilities and updates to existing locations across North
19 Texas; in recognition of his invaluable contributions,
20 Mr. Echtenkamp has been named president emeritus of the Dallas Y;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, This esteemed Texan has further invested his time
23 and talents as chair of the Character Coalition of North Texas, the
24 Texas Alliance of YMCAs, the YMCA Employee Benefits Plan, and the

1 YMCA North American Network, and as a member of the Association of
2 YMCA Professionals and the United Way Campaign Cabinet; and

3 WHEREAS, Widely admired by his peers, colleagues, and the
4 community at large, Gordon Echtenkamp has greatly advanced the
5 mission of the YMCA, and his efforts have indeed contributed to the
6 well-being of residents across North Texas; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
8 Legislature hereby congratulate Gordon Echtenkamp on his
9 retirement from the YMCA of Metropolitan Dallas and extend to him
10 sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

11 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
12 prepared for Mr. Echtenkamp as an expression of high regard by the
13 Texas House of Representatives.