

By: Gervin-Hawkins

H.R. No. 847

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Former San Antonio Spurs player George "Iceman"  
2 Gervin is celebrating his 65th birthday on April 26, 2017, and this  
3 occasion presents a welcome opportunity to recognize not only his  
4 remarkable athletic achievements but also his stellar record of  
5 service to the Alamo City; and

6           WHEREAS, Born in 1952, George Gervin played basketball at  
7 Eastern Michigan University, where he tallied a total of 1,044  
8 points and 562 rebounds and gained recognition for his devastating  
9 outside jump shot and his equally adept skills in driving to the  
10 basket, artfully avoiding defenders, and successfully finishing a  
11 play with his trademark finger-roll layup; in honor of his singular  
12 accomplishments, the university retired his jersey in 1986 and  
13 inducted him into the EMU Athletic Hall of Fame in 1993; and

14           WHEREAS, Mr. Gervin began his professional career with the  
15 Virginia Squires of the American Basketball Association, and during  
16 his four-year tenure in the ABA, he established a reputation as an  
17 unstoppable offensive force on the hardwood and earned All-Star  
18 status three times; he also received the nickname "Iceman" for his  
19 extraordinarily consistent production and on-court demeanor and  
20 his clutch performances when the game was on the line; and

21           WHEREAS, In 1974, Mr. Gervin was acquired by the San Antonio  
22 Spurs, and after the franchise joined the NBA in 1976, he helped  
23 lead the team to five division titles over nine years; moreover, he  
24 garnered All-Star honors nine consecutive times and received the

1 Most Valuable Player Award for his outstanding performance in the  
2 1980 All-Star Game; and

3         WHEREAS, Among the best players to ever don the silver and  
4 black of San Antonio, Mr. Gervin scored a career total of 26,595  
5 points, and today he remains the Spurs' all-time leader in points  
6 per game and ranks among the top five in franchise history in field  
7 goals made and attempted, free throws made, rebounds, assists,  
8 steals, and blocked shots; in addition, he is one of only three  
9 players in league history to win at least four scoring titles, along  
10 with Michael Jordan and Wilt Chamberlain, and ranks in the top 50 of  
11 all-time NBA scoring leaders; the Spurs retired his number 44  
12 jersey in December 1987, and he is one of only six San Antonio  
13 players to ever receive that honor; and

14         WHEREAS, Since his retirement, Mr. Gervin has been accorded a  
15 host of other prestigious accolades; in 1996, he became the first  
16 Spurs player to be inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball  
17 Hall of Fame, and he was also one of the inaugural inductees of the  
18 San Antonio Sports Hall of Fame and was selected for inclusion in  
19 the Texas Sports Hall of Fame; moreover, he has been named one of  
20 the 50 greatest players in league history by the NBA, earning his  
21 rightful place in a pantheon of basketball legends whose exploits  
22 have helped shape the game they love; and

23         WHEREAS, Today, Mr. Gervin serves as a community relations  
24 representative with the Spurs, a role in which he devotes  
25 considerable time and energy to speaking at schools, banquets, and  
26 charities, coaching at basketball clinics, and lending his  
27 respected voice to a number of valuable public service

1 announcements; outside the organization, he has further benefited  
2 the city as the founder of the George Gervin Youth Center, an  
3 institution dedicated to helping educate local kids, assisting  
4 senior citizens with finding quality affordable housing, and  
5 providing young adults with the necessary resources to become  
6 productive members of the community; and

7 WHEREAS, George Gervin built one of the most storied careers  
8 in Spurs franchise history and has continued to give back to the  
9 local community ever since, and he is indeed deserving of special  
10 recognition; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
12 Legislature hereby congratulate George "Iceman" Gervin on his 65th  
13 birthday and extend to him sincere best wishes for the future; and,  
14 be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
16 prepared for Mr. Gervin as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
17 House of Representatives.