

By: Romero, Jr.

H.R. No. 917

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Honorable Senfronia Thompson has received the
2 2017 Family Champion Award by the Texas Council on Family
3 Relations; and

4 WHEREAS, Representative Thompson is the longest-serving
5 woman and the longest-serving African American in the history of
6 the Texas Legislature; since 1973, when she began representing
7 House District 141, she has succeeded in securing the passage of a
8 host of bills benefiting Texas families; she is the author of the
9 state's first alimony law, its current minimum wage law, and the
10 contraceptive parity law; in addition, she helped pass legislation
11 creating the Sexual Assault Program Fund and other reforms designed
12 to protect women and children against domestic violence; she
13 sponsored the National Domestic Violence Hotline and fought to end
14 gender discrimination in the workplace; and

15 WHEREAS, Deeply committed to the security of our youngest
16 residents, Representative Thompson was instrumental in major
17 reforms in child support enforcement, among them the Uniform
18 Interstate Family Support Act and the Uniform Child Custody and
19 Jurisdiction Enforcement Act; moreover, she simplified probate
20 proceedings by authoring the Durable Power of Attorney Act, and she
21 worked to overhaul statutes dealing with statutory county courts
22 and municipal courts; she also helped pass legislation requiring
23 free testing for the human papillomavirus, an early indicator of
24 cervical cancer; in the 84th legislative session alone, her many

1 achievements included the passage of her bill, H.B. 2630, which
2 prioritizes evidence-based parent education, and of three bills
3 aimed at preventing human trafficking; and

4 WHEREAS, Representative Thompson is the recipient of myriad
5 accolades; she was selected as an Eleanor Roosevelt Fellow by the
6 Center for Public Policy Alternatives, and she has been named one of
7 the state's top legislators by numerous media outlets, among them
8 *Texas Monthly*, the Associated Press, and the *Nation* magazine; in
9 2011, she was accorded the Legislator of the Year Award by the Texas
10 Family Law Foundation; and

11 WHEREAS, Through her unyielding dedication to the most
12 vulnerable members of society, Representative Thompson has
13 improved the lives of countless Texans, and she is most deserving of
14 this significant honor; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
16 Legislature hereby congratulate Senfronia Thompson on her receipt
17 of the 2017 Family Champion Award from the Texas Council on Family
18 Relations and that she be commended for her work in behalf of Texas
19 families; and, be it further

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