

By: Thierry

H.R. No. 1361

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, For nearly four decades, the Texas Coalition of
2 Black Democrats has brought together individuals who share an
3 interest in advancing progressive values and addressing the
4 concerns of African Americans in the Lone Star State; and

5 WHEREAS, The vision for the coalition originated in January
6 1979, when a small group of residents from Arlington, Dallas, Fort
7 Worth, and Grand Prairie gathered to discuss the possibility of
8 establishing a network among African Americans in the Metroplex; in
9 subsequent meetings that year, the group decided to call together
10 grassroots leaders from across Texas, and the coalition's first
11 state conference was held in Austin from February 22 to 24, 1980;
12 the event drew more than 350 registered delegates and included
13 workshops conducted by representatives from the Democratic
14 National Committee and several federal departments; and

15 WHEREAS, Today, the Texas Coalition of Black Democrats
16 continues to play a prominent role in the African American
17 community, stimulating interest in civic affairs and facilitating
18 participation in the Democratic Party while also focusing on such
19 issues as economic development and government response to public
20 need; and

21 WHEREAS, In carrying out its mission, the coalition benefits
22 from the dedicated leadership of its current officers, chair Gene
23 Collins, vice chair for programs Shuronda Robinson, vice chair for
24 membership Almeda Dent, vice chair for finance Ernest McGowen Jr.,

1 recording secretary Courtney Bass, treasurer Winifred Jackson,
2 budget and finance committee chair Darwin McKee, and
3 parliamentarian Donald Williams; and

4 WHEREAS, Through their efforts to ensure that the voices of
5 African Americans are heard at all levels of government, the
6 members of the Texas Coalition of Black Democrats exemplify the
7 ideals of American democracy, and their commitment to political
8 engagement serves as an inspiring example for their fellow
9 citizens; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
11 Legislature hereby recognize the Texas Coalition of Black Democrats
12 and extend to its members sincere best wishes for the future; and,
13 be it further

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