

By: Wu

H.R. No. 2017

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Legendary Houston newscaster Dave Ward retired from
2 ABC affiliate KTRK-TV on May 2, 2017, drawing to a close a
3 distinguished tenure with the station that spanned more than half a
4 century; and

5 WHEREAS, A native of Dallas, Dave Ward grew up in Huntsville
6 and began his career in broadcast journalism at KGKB radio in Tyler,
7 while attending college; he subsequently worked at WACO radio in
8 Waco and at KNUZ/KQUE radio in Houston before joining the staff at
9 KTRK-TV as a street reporter and photographer in 1966; quickly
10 establishing himself as a mainstay at the station, he landed roles
11 as anchor of the weekday morning newscast and as the first host of
12 the program *Dialing for Dollars*, which later evolved into *Good*
13 *Morning Houston*; from 1968 until his retirement, he anchored the
14 weekday evening news at 6 and 10, earning recognition from the
15 *Guinness Book of World Records* in June 2016 as the longest-serving
16 local television news anchor at the same station in the same market;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, During his remarkable career at Channel 13
19 Eyewitness News, Mr. Ward reported on events ranging from the
20 Vietnam peace talks and NASA space missions to extreme weather and
21 natural disasters; he covered decades of political conventions and
22 elections, reported from Central and South America, and interviewed
23 a number of heads of state, including President Barack Obama; known
24 for his warm and engaging persona, he became a familiar and beloved

1 face to Houston residents, who tuned in each night to hear his
2 famous tagline, "Good evening, friends," and he garnered a sterling
3 reputation among his colleagues for accuracy and attention to
4 detail; and

5 WHEREAS, This esteemed Texan has also played a prominent role
6 in Houston civic life; he was instrumental in establishing the
7 Houston Crime Stoppers program, which has been a model for similar
8 efforts worldwide, and he has served as president of Easter Seals
9 Greater Houston, as chair of the Public Affairs Advisory Board of
10 the Greater Houston Business Council, and as a member of the boards
11 for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, the Houston Press Club, and the
12 Houston Police Foundation; and

13 WHEREAS, Over the years, Mr. Ward's contributions both to
14 journalism and to his community have earned him numerous accolades,
15 including a regional Emmy for his work on the special *Steve Tyrell:*
16 *A Houston Standard*, a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Lone Star
17 Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences,
18 and induction into the Texas Radio Hall of Fame and Texas
19 Intercollegiate Press Association Hall of Fame; he has also
20 received the City of Houston Public Service Award and the Leon
21 Goldstein Award for Outstanding Service in Fighting Crime, and he
22 has been honored by the Mexican American Bar Association of Texas;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, Dave Ward's talent, professionalism, and dedication
25 to his fellow citizens have greatly benefited KTRK-TV and the
26 Houston community for more than 50 years, and he may indeed reflect
27 with pride on a career well spent as he embarks on the next exciting

1 chapter of his life; now, therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
3 Legislature hereby congratulate Dave Ward on the occasion of his
4 retirement from KTRK-TV in Houston and extend to him sincere best
5 wishes for the future; and, be it further

6 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
7 prepared for Mr. Ward as an expression of high regard by the Texas
8 House of Representatives.