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By:  Johnson of Harris H.R. No. 1434

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Benard Ighner of Houston, composer of the timeless classic "Everything Must Change," passed away on August 14, 2017, at the age of 72; and

WHEREAS, The son of Erma and Booker T. Ighner, Benard Ighner was born in the Bayou City on January 18, 1945, and grew up with four siblings, Jo Carole, Sondra, Anita, and Keith; although he had no formal training, he demonstrated musical talent at an early age and learned how to play piano, guitar, bass, and drums, as well as a number of wind instruments; he graduated from Yates High School and moved to San Diego, California, with his family before enlisting in the U.S. Army; and

WHEREAS, After serving his country in Germany, Mr. Ighner returned to California and met Dizzy Gillespie at the home of his older sister; the jazz legend was so impressed by his rich baritone voice that he invited him to tour and record with his band; subsequently, he introduced Mr. Ighner to composer Lalo Schifrin, who featured him on the album *Rock Requiem*, and they cowrote "Like Me," featured on the *Dirty Harry* soundtrack; later, they teamed for an orchestral performance and album with Sarah Vaughan; and

WHEREAS, Quincy Jones received a demo of Mr. Ighner's composition "Everything Must Change" and asked him to sing it on his 1974 album *Body Heat*; the LP soared to the top of the charts, and the haunting melody became a standard, covered by everyone from vocalists Nina Simone, Randy Crawford, and Barbra Streisand to jazz musicians Lester Bowie, Archie Shepp, and David "Fathead" Newman; Mr. Ighner eventually recorded a new version of the song on his only solo album, *Little Dreamer*, which featured his brother, Keith, on bass; he also appeared with his sister, Sondra, on a Sergio Mendes album that featured two of his songs, "You Been Away Too Long" and "Davy"; superstar Shirley Bassey flew to Los Angeles to record "Davy" with him as a duet, and the tune appeared alongside other Ighner compositions on the popular soul-jazz album he produced for Marlena Shaw; over the years, many others recorded his work, and he sang harmony vocals for James Taylor, Jimmy Smith, and other artists and performed for commercials; and

WHEREAS, Kind, gentle, and enormously gifted, Benard Ighner brought joy to innumerable people, and he left a musical legacy for all to treasure; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Benard Ighner and extend sincere condolences to all who mourn his passing; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Benard Ighner.