

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A rich and purposeful life has drawn to a close with
2 the death of former Tarrant County commissioner Dionne Phillips
3 Bagsby on January 10, 2019, at the age of 82; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Phoenix, Illinois, to Paul and Ann Phillips,
5 Dionne Phillips earned her bachelor's degree from Illinois Wesleyan
6 University, her certification in speech pathology from George
7 Peabody College for Teachers, and her master's degree from Texas
8 Christian University; joined in matrimony to James A. Bagsby, she
9 was the proud mother of two children, Dionne Bagsby Jones and James
10 Tipkins Bagsby, and later in life she was blessed with four
11 grandchildren, Kirbe, Kelli, Josiah, and Elijah, and five
12 step-grandchildren; and

13 WHEREAS, In the 1960s, Ms. Bagsby moved with her husband to
14 Fort Worth, where she was employed as a speech therapist for Fort
15 Worth ISD and helped the district work toward a peaceful
16 integration of Fort Worth schools; she devoted much of her time to
17 community activism, recruiting qualified candidates to run for
18 public office and playing a leading role in the establishment of the
19 Greater Fort Worth Area Negro Business and Professional Women's
20 Club; and

21 WHEREAS, In 1988, Ms. Bagsby ran for office herself and
22 became the first woman and the first African American to win a seat
23 on the Tarrant County Commissioners Court; she served as
24 commissioner for Precinct 1 until 2005, and during her 16-year

1 tenure, she was a champion for improving education and increasing
2 the employment of women and minorities; she also expanded access to
3 health care by working to open community clinics across the county,
4 helped establish an immunization program, and guided grant money to
5 women's shelters in Fort Worth and Arlington; and

6 WHEREAS, This dynamic woman continued to contribute to her
7 community even in retirement, serving on the boards of United Way,
8 the Jubilee Theatre, Trinity Terrace, and the Fort Worth
9 Metropolitan Black Chamber of Commerce Youth Leadership
10 Development Program, among others; she was a recipient of the
11 Legacy Award from the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce, and a
12 sub-courthouse in southwest Tarrant County was named in her honor;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, A woman of profound religious faith, Dionne Bagsby
15 lived by the words of Luke 12:48, "From everyone who has been given
16 much, much will be demanded," and the legacy of her service to her
17 family and her community will forever inspire all those who knew and
18 loved her; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
20 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Dionne Phillips
21 Bagsby and extend heartfelt sympathy to her family and many
22 friends; and, be it further

23 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
24 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
25 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Dionne
26 Phillips Bagsby.

Davis of Dallas

Bonnen of Brazoria	Guerra	Oliverson
Allen	Guillen	Ortega
Allison	Gutierrez	Pacheco
Anchia	Harless	Paddie
Anderson	Harris	Parker
Ashby	Hefner	Patterson
Bailes	Hernandez	Paul
Beckley	Herrero	Perez
Bell of Kaufman	Hinojosa	Phelan
Bell of Montgomery	Holland	Price
Bernal	Howard	Ramos
Biedermann	Huberty	Raney
Blanco	Hunter	Raymond
Bohac	Israel	Reynolds
Bonnen of Galveston	E. Johnson of Dallas	Rodriguez
Bowers	J. Johnson of Dallas	Romero, Jr.
Buckley	Johnson of Harris	Rose
Bucy	Kacal	Rosenthal
Burns	King of Hemphill	Sanford
Burrows	King of Parker	Schaefer
Button	King of Uvalde	Shaheen
Cain	Klick	Sheffield
Calanni	Krause	Sherman, Sr.
Canales	Kuempel	Shine
Capriglione	Lambert	Smith
Clardy	Landgraf	Smithee
Cole	Lang	Springer
Coleman	Larson	Stephenson
Collier	Leach	Stickland
Cortez	Leman	Stucky
Craddick	Longoria	Swanson
Cyrier	Lozano	Talarico
Darby	Lucio III	Thierry
Davis of Dallas	Martinez	Thompson of Brazoria
Davis of Harris	Martinez Fischer	Thompson of Harris
Dean	Metcalf	Tinderholt
Deshotel	Meyer	Toth
Dominguez	Meza	Turner of Dallas
Dutton	Middleton	Turner of Tarrant
Farrar	Miller	VanDeaver
Flynn	Minjarez	Vo
Frank	Moody	Walle
Frullo	Morrison	White
Geren	Muñoz, Jr.	Wilson
Gervin-Hawkins	Murphy	Wray
Goldman	Murr	Wu
González of Dallas	Neave	Zedler
González of El Paso	Nevárez	Zerwas
Goodwin	Noble	Zwiener

H.R. No. 63

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 63 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on January 16, 2019.

Chief Clerk of the House