

By: Frullo

H.R. No. 1408

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Residents of Lubbock lost an admired civic leader
2 with the passing of Octavia Middleton Givens on April 7, 2019, at
3 the age of 85; and

4 WHEREAS, The daughter of John and Lucille Middleton, the
5 former Octavia Middleton was born in East Texas on November 17,
6 1933; she graduated from Turner High School in Waxahachie and
7 attended Peoples Business College, South Plains College, and
8 Lubbock Christian College; early in her career, she was the first
9 African American woman employed as a cashier at a grocery store in
10 Austin and as a window cashier at Southwestern Public Service; she
11 later became the first female African American member of the
12 Lubbock Association of Realtors Board of Directors; employed as a
13 Realtor by Givens Real Estate, she also worked as a secretary for
14 Wheatley Elementary School and the Lubbock Housing Authority; and

15 WHEREAS, Mrs. Givens benefited her fellow citizens through
16 her dedicated efforts in a number of leadership roles; she was a
17 founding member of the Lubbock African American Chamber of Commerce
18 and served on the board of the organization; moreover, she was
19 president of the Estacado High School ROTC Parent Organization, a
20 member of the Concerned Citizens and the Lubbock Human Relations
21 Commission, and a longtime congregant of New Hope Missionary
22 Baptist Church, where she was an usher and deaconess; her many
23 accolades included recognition as a Lubbock Trailblazer; and

24 WHEREAS, Deeply committed to her family, her faith, and her

1 community, Octavia Givens earned the lasting respect and admiration
2 of all who were privileged to know her, and her contributions will
3 remain a source of inspiration to all; now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
5 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Octavia Middleton
6 Givens and extend sincere condolences to her family: to her
7 husband, R. J. Givens; to her children, the Honorable Ron Givens and
8 his wife, Margie, and Cheryl Givens Wiley; to her stepdaughter,
9 Carolyn Mercer, and her husband, William; to her three
10 grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, and four
11 great-great-grandchildren; and to her many other relatives and
12 friends; and, be it further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
14 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
15 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Octavia
16 Middleton Givens.