

By: Cyrier

H.R. No. 1997

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Former state representative Pike Powers has played a
2 crucial role in transforming Central Texas into a technology
3 powerhouse; and

4 WHEREAS, A longtime leader in economic development,
5 Mr. Powers served in the legislature from 1972 to 1979; he joined
6 the administration of Governor Mark White in 1983 and began working
7 to diversify the industrial base by attracting MCC and Sematech to
8 Austin; subsequently, he continued his efforts as
9 partner-in-charge of Fulbright & Jaworski's Austin office, and he
10 is credited with bringing to the state such tech giants as 3M,
11 Applied Materials, and AMD, as well as major Samsung expansions;
12 their advent helped spur on such homegrown companies as Dell and
13 National Instruments; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Powers has galvanized the technology sector as a
15 member of numerous influential organizations, including the
16 Governor's Council on Science and Biotechnology Development,
17 established by Rick Perry; a central player in initiatives designed
18 to amplify collaboration among government, academia, and the
19 private sector, he worked with the state to launch the nearly \$300
20 million Texas Enterprise Fund, and he was vice chair of the \$200
21 million Texas Emerging Technology Fund; in 2002, he was
22 instrumental in the creation of the Texas Technology Initiative,
23 and he continues to serve as its chair; he has also co-chaired
24 Emergent Technologies-Fund IV for 15 years, and he is CEO of the

1 Pike Powers Group and chair of the Texas Foundation for Innovative
2 Communities; in addition, he has served on a host of corporate
3 boards and advisory boards; and

4 WHEREAS, Over the years, Mr. Powers has been a catalyst for
5 the creation of a business, civic, and philanthropic network in the
6 state's capital, and he has given generously of his time and
7 expertise in behalf of Opportunity Austin and the Greater San
8 Marcos Partnership; his accomplishments have earned him myriad
9 accolades, including the titles of Texas Legend from the American
10 Electronics Association, Texan of the Year from the Texas
11 Legislative Conference, and Austinite of the Year from the Austin
12 Chamber of Commerce; a graduate of Lamar University, he earned his
13 J.D. from The University of Texas School of Law; and

14 WHEREAS, Through his vision, acumen, and profound commitment
15 to the high tech information and entrepreneurial economy, Pike
16 Powers has made a tremendous impact in the Lone Star State; now,
17 therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
19 Legislature hereby honor Pike Powers for his vital contributions to
20 the development of the Austin regional technology economy and
21 extend to him sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it
22 further

23 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
24 prepared for Mr. Powers as an expression of high regard by the Texas
25 House of Representatives.