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By:  Dutton H.R. No. 1745

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Mary D. Fontenot has been named the Outstanding Texan for House District 142 by the Texas Legislative Black Caucus at its 2021 summit; and

WHEREAS, A lifelong Houstonian, Mary Fontenot received her education at the University of Houston, and she began her career with the COMPAQ computer company before working with Humana and the Memorial Healthcare System, managing community initiatives in partnership with the City of Houston, the State of Texas, and other local agencies; she has earned a sterling reputation for her successful coordination of marketing projects for corporate and nonprofit clients, reaching local, national, and international audiences; and

WHEREAS, Several Houston mayors, including Lee P. Brown, Bill White, and Bob Lanier, have relied on Ms. Fontenot's skill and work ethic for fundraising initiatives, business conferences, and international festivals; she also played a vital role in the public relations team of the late Joe Sample, the Grammy Award-winning pianist and Houston native; and

WHEREAS, In addition to her professional accomplishments, Ms. Fontenot has demonstrated her commitment to the community through her efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey, when she partnered with several organizations to arrange for the repair of more than 100 homes; during the COVID-19 pandemic, she helped organize the grassroots distribution of food and supplies to thousands of senior citizens and other vulnerable residents in the northeast and southeast parts of Houston; moreover, she is an active member of Preserving Communities of Color, working to document and preserve the heritage of Houston's Pleasantville neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, Over the course of her life, Mary Fontenot has tirelessly dedicated herself to improving the lives of her fellow citizens, and this prestigious honor from the Texas Legislative Black Caucus is a fitting tribute to her long record of achievement; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby congratulate Mary Fontenot for being named the Outstanding Texan for House District 142 by the Texas Legislative Black Caucus and extend to her sincere best wishes for continued success and happiness; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for Ms. Fontenot as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.