

By: Dutton

H.R. No. 47

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Family and friends were deeply saddened by the
2 passing of admired vocalist Shirley Baines of Houston on January
3 15, 2021, at the age of 69; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Houston on March 9, 1951, Shirley Baines
5 grew up in the historic Fifth Ward and graduated from Phillis
6 Wheatley High School; she went on to earn her bachelor's degree in
7 music education at Texas Southern University and studied vocal
8 techniques under noted private instructors, at the University of
9 Arizona, and through the Metropolitan Opera House in New York City,
10 the Merola Opera Program of the San Francisco Opera Company, and the
11 American Institute of Musical Studies in Austria; and

12 WHEREAS, Ms. Baines toured the country with Broadway
13 companies and performed in Europe and Asia as well; her soprano
14 repertoire ranged from classical music to art songs and spirituals,
15 and she loved to promote the works of African American composers;
16 among numerous accolades, she received the national Dealy Award in
17 the vocal category, as well as the top National Soloist Bureau Award
18 of the National Convention of Gospel Choirs and Choruses; and

19 WHEREAS, Dedicated to her profession, Ms. Baines maintained
20 a number of affiliations, among them the Houston Metropolitan
21 Chorale, the American Guild of Musical Artists, and the National
22 Association for the Study and Performance of African American
23 Music; she was also a lifelong member of Pleasant Hill Baptist
24 Church in the Fifth Ward; and

1 WHEREAS, Shirley Baines brought joy to countless people
2 through her musical gifts, and although she will be greatly missed
3 by those she left behind, she will forever hold a special place in
4 their hearts; now, therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
6 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Shirley Baines and
7 extend sincere condolences to all who mourn her passing; and, be it
8 further

9 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
10 prepared for her loved ones and that when the Texas House of
11 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Shirley
12 Baines.