

By: Reynolds

H.R. No. 636

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A full and generous life has drawn to a close with
2 the death of the Honorable Donald W. Bankston of Richmond on March
3 24, 2021, at the age of 73; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Dallas on September 24, 1947, Don Bankston
5 graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School, and he attended the
6 University of North Texas before earning his law degree at the
7 University of Houston; after beginning his legal career in Houston,
8 he moved his family and his practice to Richmond in 1984; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Bankston worked as an assistant district
10 attorney for Fort Bend County for three years, but for much of his
11 46-year career, he was a respected criminal defense attorney who
12 handled many high profile cases, including major drug and capital
13 murder trials; he was known for his strong stands on behalf of
14 constitutional rights and against police brutality and
15 prosecutorial overreach, and he was a member of the Fort Bend County
16 Criminal Defense Bar Association and the Texas Criminal Defense
17 Lawyers Association; since October 2019, he had served as associate
18 justice on the 268th District Court; and

19 WHEREAS, A champion for his political ideals, Mr. Bankston
20 played a leading role in organizing the local Democratic Party in
21 the 1990s, and he chaired the Fort Bend County Democratic Party and
22 served as a member of the State Democratic Executive Committee; he
23 was admired by his peers and adversaries alike as a dedicated
24 activist, negotiator, and mentor to many younger public servants;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, Mr. Bankston and his wife, Susan DuQuesnay
3 Bankston, shared a loving relationship for 50 years; he took great
4 pride in his three sons, Bryan, Mark, and the late Chip Bankston,
5 his daughter-in-law, Elizabeth, and his grandson, Benjamin; and

6 WHEREAS, Don Bankston was a devoted family man, an engaged
7 citizen, and a skilled attorney and jurist, and his commitment to
8 public service and to equal justice will continue to inspire all
9 those who knew and loved him; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
11 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Donald W. Bankston and
12 extend sincere condolences to his family and to his many friends;
13 and, be it further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
15 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
16 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Don
17 Bankston.