H.R. No. 1963

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Aaronetta Pierce of San Antonio has greatly
benefited her fellow citizens as a dynamic advocate for African
American art, culture, and history; and

WHEREAS, In early 2021, Mrs. Pierce was appointed as one of 4 5 the tri-chairs of the Alamo Citizens Advisory Committee; the committee was established by the city council to create a vision and 6 7 guiding principles for the redevelopment of Alamo Plaza and the surrounding area; traditionally serving as the city's central 8 9 public forum, the plaza includes a civil rights landmark, the 100-year-old Woolworth Building, which was the site of the South's 10 11 first peaceful desegregation of a lunch counter; Mrs. Pierce has 12 championed its preservation as a prominent member of the Coalition for the Woolworth Building; and 13

14 WHEREAS, Mrs. Pierce has been active in the community for decades; in 1985, she became the first Black woman appointed to the 15 Texas Commission on the Arts; she chaired the Martin Luther King 16 City/County Commission as it organized the city's inaugural Martin 17 Luther King Jr. Day celebrations, and she also chaired a 18 blue-ribbon committee that led to the creation of the city's 19 Department of Arts and Cultural Affairs; as a member of the San 20 21 Antonio Museum Association board, she was instrumental in bringing the first important survey of African American art to the city; she 22 23 and her husband, Dr. Joseph A. Pierce Jr., founded Premier Artworks 24 to promote the work of African American artists and authors across

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1 the country; and

2 WHEREAS, Over the years, Mrs. Pierce has served on the boards 3 of a host of worthy organizations, including the San Antonio 4 Performing Arts Association, the San Antonio Area Foundation, the 5 Witte Museum, the Spurs Foundation, and United Way; among numerous 6 accolades, she was inducted into the Texas Women's Hall of Fame in 7 1993; and

8 WHEREAS, Aaronetta Pierce has made a lasting, positive 9 imprint on San Antonio through her wide-ranging contributions, and 10 she continues to dedicate herself to the betterment of the city; 11 now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas 13 Legislature hereby honor Aaronetta Pierce for her civic leadership 14 and extend to her sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it 15 further

16 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be 17 prepared for Mrs. Pierce as an expression of high regard by the 18 Texas House of Representatives.

Gervin-Hawkins

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1963 was adopted by the House on May 31, 2021, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House