

By: Miles, et al.

S.R. No. 117

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The 80th birthday of an esteemed legislator is truly  
2 cause for celebration, and State Representative Harold V. Dutton,  
3 Jr., of Houston is marking this significant milestone in his life on  
4 February 17, 2025, to the delight of his family, his friends, and  
5 his colleagues in the Capitol community; and

6           WHEREAS, A proud son of Houston's Fifth Ward, Harold Dutton  
7 was born in 1945, and he received his diploma from Phillis Wheatley  
8 High School at the age of 16; after earning his bachelor's degree in  
9 accounting from Texas Southern University, he went on to graduate  
10 from the Thurgood Marshall School of Law at TSU; he held management  
11 positions with Conoco in the areas of corporate planning and  
12 economic analysis before becoming president of Four Star  
13 Broadcasting and opening his law practice; and

14           WHEREAS, Representative Dutton was first elected to the Texas  
15 House of Representatives in 1984, and he is presently serving his  
16 21st term in office; during his remarkable 40-year tenure, he has  
17 served on numerous committees and in many leadership roles,  
18 including as chair of the Urban Affairs and the Juvenile Justice and  
19 Family Issues Committees, and he became the first African American  
20 chair of the Public Education Committee during the 87th Legislative  
21 Session in 2021; moreover, he has served as chair of the Texas  
22 Legislative Black Caucus and the Harris County legislative  
23 delegation; and

24           WHEREAS, Among his many achievements as a lawmaker,

1 Representative Dutton sponsored the state's first statutory  
2 program to assist women- and minority-owned businesses, as well as  
3 initiatives to enhance public education, particularly regarding  
4 alternative education and early childhood literacy; he has also  
5 sponsored legislation to establish the annual sales tax holiday, to  
6 compensate individuals who are wrongfully convicted, and to create  
7 incentives to improve the availability and affordability of  
8 property insurance in traditionally underserved areas; the  
9 recipient of myriad accolades, he was named Legislator of the Year  
10 by the Texas Municipal League and was recognized as a Distinguished  
11 Alumnus by the TSU School of Business, and he has been honored by a  
12 host of organizations and publications through the years; and

13 WHEREAS, Over the course of his long and distinguished career  
14 in the Texas Legislature, Harold Dutton has earned the deep  
15 admiration of his colleagues and constituents alike, and he may  
16 indeed reflect with pride on his wide-ranging contributions as he  
17 celebrates eight decades of life well lived; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 89th Texas Legislature  
19 hereby congratulate the Honorable Harold V. Dutton, Jr., on the  
20 occasion of his 80th birthday and extend to him sincere best wishes  
21 for the future; and, be it further

22 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
23 prepared for Representative Dutton as an expression of high regard  
24 by the Texas Senate.