

By: Miles

S.R. No. 287

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Keith Downey is being honored with a 2025  
2 Outstanding Texan Award from the Texas Legislative Black Caucus;  
3 and

4 WHEREAS, A native of Houston, Mr. Downey graduated from  
5 Kashmere High School in 1980, and he went on to attend Prairie View  
6 A&M University, to major in architecture at The University of Texas  
7 at Arlington, and to study servant leadership at Cornell University  
8 and environmental justice at Texas Southern University; relocating  
9 to New York City in the late 1980s, he began designing affordable  
10 housing for low-income families, and he distinguished himself  
11 during a longtime career as an architectural designer and as a  
12 senior construction project manager for the city; in 2011 and 2012,  
13 he was recognized for helping to rebuild more than 20 parks in  
14 Brooklyn and in Queens and for assisting with the creation of an  
15 accessible playground for children with disabilities; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Downey subsequently returned to Houston, where  
17 he has since earned a reputation for his dedication to community  
18 service; a founding director and the director of partnerships for  
19 the Northeast Houston Redevelopment Council, he advocates for  
20 residents, and he helped found the Northeast Community Farmers  
21 Market, which addresses food insecurity in the Kashmere and Trinity  
22 Gardens neighborhoods; during Hurricane Harvey in 2017, he assisted  
23 in the rescue of hundreds of Harris County area citizens, and he  
24 played a key role in establishing a resilience hub for disaster

1 training; moreover, he has worked with ProUnitas to provide support  
2 services for area school systems, and he is president of the  
3 Kashmere Gardens Super Neighborhood Council No. 52 and a member of  
4 the Texas General Land Office citizen advisory committee; he was  
5 honored by the City of Houston with the recognition of July 23,  
6 2020, as Keith Downey Day, and he has also been named a Houston Hero  
7 by the *Houston Chronicle* and a recipient of the Presidential  
8 Lifetime Achievement Award in 2022, 2023, and 2024; in all his  
9 endeavors, he enjoys the love and support of his wife, Roshida; and

10 WHEREAS, Keith Downey sets an inspiring example of service  
11 and achievement for his fellow Texans, and he is indeed deserving of  
12 special recognition for all that he has accomplished in behalf of  
13 the community of Houston; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 89th Texas Legislature  
15 hereby congratulate Keith Downey on his receipt of a 2025  
16 Outstanding Texan Award from the Texas Legislative Black Caucus and  
17 extend to him sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
19 prepared for Mr. Downey as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
20 Senate.