

HR 9019

2006

## House Resolution

A resolution honoring Attorney Delano Smart Stewart, 2005 inductee into the National Bar Association Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, on August 5, 2005, during the 80th Annual Convention of the National Bar Association, longtime Tampa attorney Delano Smart Stewart was inducted into the association's Hall of Fame, one of only six outstanding attorneys so honored for the year 2005, and

WHEREAS, considered the Dean of Black Lawyers in Florida, Attorney Delano Stewart has been practicing law in Tampa since 1964, compiling a record of many significant contributions, including his co-founding the Tampa Organization of Black Affairs, serving as the first black assistant public defender in Hillsborough County, and making his firm the first integrated practice in the city by hiring a white lawyer in 1970, and

WHEREAS, Attorney Stewart has been honored numerous times by local and state bar associations, some of the most recent awards to his credit being the Francisco Rodriguez Award for unstinting service to mankind in the areas of civil and human rights, given by the George Edgecomb Bar Association; the President's Award from the Virgil Hawkins Florida Chapter Bar Association; and the 2004 Herbert Goldberg Award, the highest award given by the Hillsborough County Bar Association Trial Lawyers Section, and

WHEREAS, hailed as a man of uncommon character, who has devoted his practice to being a "social engineer, not a parasite on society," his goal to serve the most needy, "Del" Stewart

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29 quietly brushes aside such accolades, simply saying of himself,  
30 "God has been kind to me; He has tremendously blessed me, and I  
31 have taken my law degree to use as a shield and sword: a shield  
32 for the oppressed and a sword for the oppressors," NOW,  
33 THEREFORE,

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35 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of  
36 Florida:

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38 That Delano S. Stewart, Attorney at Law, is congratulated  
39 upon his induction into the Hall of Fame of the auspicious  
40 National Bar Association and is extended the heartfelt honor  
41 befitting one of his stature.

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be  
43 presented to Attorney Delano S. Stewart as a tangible token of  
44 the sentiments expressed herein.