



Resolution

WHEREAS, Dorothy Lee Bolden was born in 1924 in Atlanta, GA; at the age of 9, she witnessed the challenges domestic workers face while helping her mother, who was a maid and washerwoman, care for a white family; in 11th grade, she dropped out of school and began working full-time as a domestic worker; and

WHEREAS, leveraging her own experiences, Dorothy Lee Bolden would later fight for the social and economic equality of domestic workers; in 1968, Dorothy Lee Bolden founded the National Domestic Workers Union of America (NDWUA), which advocated to win fair wages and professionalize household work; and

WHEREAS, Dorothy Lee Bolden was a trailblazer of the domestic worker union movement during the civil rights era, galvanizing domestic workers across the South to advocate for equal pay, respect, and better work conditions through the NDWUA; and

WHEREAS, Dorothy Lee Bolden instilled the importance of civic engagement in domestic workers, who were mostly Black women and people of color, by requiring the thousands of prospective NDWUA members to register to vote before being able to join the organization; and

WHEREAS, Dorothy Lee Bolden gained national recognition for her work in politics, advocacy for Black civil rights, and labor reform, eventually leading her to counsel Presidents Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, and Ronald Reagan in national matters concerning social services, welfare reform, and worker's rights; and

WHEREAS, the Houston National Domestic Workers Alliance (NDWA)-We Dream in Black Chapter has since upheld and continued Dorothy Lee Bolden's legacy through ensuring the respect, recognition, and rights for the greater Houston area's domestic and care workers; and

WHEREAS, domestic and care workers are the backbone of our economy, making it possible for others to also work; Precinct 4 is grateful for their immeasurable contributions and commends the Houston NDWA-We Dream in Black Chapter for advocating for low-wage workers in Houston and Harris County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Harris County Commissioners Court hereby respectfully honors

**DOROTHY LEE BOLDEN AND
THE HOUSTON NATIONAL DOMESTIC WORKERS ALLIANCE -
WE DREAM IN BLACK CHAPTER**

for their commitment to securing social and economic rights for domestic workers.

It is hereby ORDERED that this Resolution be included in the minutes of Commissioners Court this 27th day of February 2024.

Lina Hidalgo, County Judge

Rodney Ellis
Commissioner, Precinct 1

Adrian Garcia
Commissioner, Precinct 2

Tom S. Ramsey, P.E.
Commissioner, Precinct 3

Lesley Briones
Commissioner, Precinct 4

ATTEST:

Teneshia Hudspeth, County Clerk
Harris County, TEXAS