



RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, in remembrance of the late Barbara E. Murray, MD, who recently passed away, the Harris County Commissioner’s Court honors her extraordinary life and illustrious career in the field of infectious diseases; and **WHEREAS**, Dr. Murray was born on June 21st, 1947, and from a young age, confronted the impact of infectious diseases, having been hospitalized for polio at the age of 4; and **WHEREAS**, Dr. Murray was raised in an academic setting, witnessing her father's work as a professor of engineering in Texas, instilling in her a passion for learning and discovery; and **WHEREAS**, Barbara E. Murray graduated cum laude with a degree in mathematics from Rice University in Houston, Texas, in 1969, and later pursued her medical education at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas, graduating as the top student in her class in 1973; and **WHEREAS**, during her medical studies, Dr. Murray embarked on transformative journeys to Costa Rica, Guatemala, and Colombia, where she witnessed the profound impact of transmissible diseases on communities, shaping her dedication to combating infectious diseases; and **WHEREAS**, Dr. Murray's pursuit of excellence led her to complete rigorous training in Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases at Harvard Medical School’s Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, followed by groundbreaking research at the Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Sciences in Thailand; and **WHEREAS**, returning to Texas, Dr. Murray joined the Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases, at UTHealth in 1980, ascending to the role of Director of the Division in 1995 and later being honored with the J. Ralph Meadows Professorship in Internal Medicine in 2003, where she distinguished herself as a pioneering researcher in antibiotic resistance, enterococcal infections, and bacterial pathogenesis; and **WHEREAS**, Dr. Murray's impactful research garnered international recognition, evidenced by her prestigious 10-year MERIT award from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and her prolific publication record, including over 400 papers in peer-reviewed journals and numerous contributions to major medical textbooks; and **WHEREAS**, beyond her academic endeavors, Dr. Murray dedicated herself to advancing the field of infectious diseases through her service on NIH committees, safety boards, and study sections, as well as her leadership roles in professional societies such as the Infectious Diseases Society of America, the American Society of Microbiology, and the European Congress of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases; and **WHEREAS**, Dr. Murray's legacy extends beyond her professional achievements, as she served as a compassionate mentor to countless generations of microbiologists and infectious diseases physicians, inspiring them with her academic curiosity, sense of justice, and adventurous spirit; and **WHEREAS**, to honor Dr. Murray's remarkable career, the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston has established the Barbara E. Murray, MD Distinguished Professorship in Internal Medicine Research, ensuring that her legacy of excellence and innovation will continue to inspire future generations of researchers and physicians; and **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that all who recognize the life and career of Barbara E. Murray, MD, join together in paying tribute to her remarkable contributions to the field of infectious diseases and her enduring legacy as a trailblazer and mentor. **ADOPTED** on this **23rd day of April 2024** by Harris County Commissioners Court, Harris County, Texas.

LINA HIDALGO, County Judge

RODNEY ELLIS, Commissioner
Precinct One

ADRIAN GARCIA, Commissioner
Precinct Two

TOM S. RAMSEY, P.E., Commissioner
Precinct Three

LESLEY BRIONES, Commissioner
Precinct Four

ATTEST:

Teneshia Hudspeth, County Clerk
Harris County, T E X A S