



Resolution

By the Honorable Debra Bowen, 28th Senatorial District;
Relative to Commending

Burton Fletcher, J.D., M.B.A.

WHEREAS, Burton Fletcher is retiring from his long career as an educator and, in tribute to his outstanding record of achievements in education, he is deserving of highest praise for embodying the best attributes of educational leadership; and

WHEREAS, Burton Fletcher began his long and distinguished career as an educator when he was still in law school, teaching Business Law in the summers of 1977-1978; and

WHEREAS, As a student at Western State University College of Law, he was Director of the Honors Moot Court as well as a member of the editorial board of the Law Review; and

WHEREAS, In the fall of 1980, following his graduation from law school, he accepted a full-time position as an instructor at El Camino College in Torrance, where he continued to teach until 1998; and he rose to the rank of Full Professor of Business Administration in 1989, and served as Department Chair during multiple years, beginning in 1984; and

WHEREAS, In 1981, he founded Fletcher & Associates, a general practice law firm in Torrance specializing in civil litigation, where he continues to practice law and oversee a staff of attorneys; and

WHEREAS, Over the years, Burton Fletcher has become a recognized expert on business management, human resources, marketing and business law, and he has taught these subjects to more than 10,000 students at 12 institutions of higher learning, in addition to El Camino College; and among them were Cypress College, Chaffey College, Citrus College, Santa Monica College, Los Angeles Southwest College, and West Los Angeles College; and during this time, he received numerous awards for excellence in teaching; and

WHEREAS, At El Camino, Burton Fletcher co-chaired a committee working to develop a college-wide leadership plan to build and maintain team environments, and led a shared governance task force that promoted a campus-wide appreciation for a collaborative work environment; and

WHEREAS, Burton Fletcher is a prolific writer, whose articles and opinion pieces have appeared in a variety of publications; and as a college professor, he wrote about the contributions part-time faculty make at community colleges and public universities, and the challenges they face in acquiring parity with their full-time colleagues; and

WHEREAS, Burton Fletcher has served the South Bay community on the boards of several organizations dedicated to ensuring the well-being of children, including Pop Warner Football of Torrance, the Center for Prevention of Child Abuse, South Bay Children's Health Center, and other nonprofit organizations; and he brought to these commitments his lifelong belief in hard work and helping others; and

WHEREAS, In 1992-1994, he also chaired the Outstanding Student Official Recognition (OSCAR) Program, which honored students for good citizenship and community service in a joint business-education partnership involving about 7,500 students; and

WHEREAS, A product of the segregated South, Burton Fletcher has been an outspoken advocate for civil rights and, as a professor at El Camino College, he conducted diversity training both on and off campus; and he has also given presentations on cultural diversity and political issues to the Torrance 20-30 Club, Torrance Rotary, and South Bay Exchange Club as well as other community organizations; and

WHEREAS, In 1992, Burton Fletcher joined a delegation from the City of Torrance that traveled to its Sister City, Kashiwa, Japan; and he later gave a presentation showing the many photographs he took to memorialize this cultural exchange between the people of Kashiwa and Torrance; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY SENATOR DEBRA BOWEN, That she congratulates Burton Fletcher on the occasion of his well-earned retirement from the field of education, commends him on his many years of dedicated service as a highly respected teacher and administrator, and extends sincere best wishes for every happiness and success in his future endeavors.

Member Resolution No. 2513
Dated this 17th day of August, 2004.

Debra Bowen

Honorable Debra Bowen
28th Senatorial District