

By: Turner of Tarrant

H.R. No. 113

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Residents of Grand Prairie gather each year on
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Day to celebrate the important legacy of the
3 civil rights leader at a parade sponsored by the Grand Prairie
4 NAACP, the City of Grand Prairie Parks, Arts & Recreation
5 Department, and the Grand Prairie Police Department; and

6 WHEREAS, In 1983, the King Holiday Bill was signed into law,
7 making the third Monday in January a federal holiday; the
8 observance later became the only federal holiday also designated as
9 a national day of service with the signing of legislation to
10 encourage Americans to follow Dr. King's example by working
11 together to improve their communities; and

12 WHEREAS, The son of a Baptist minister, Martin Luther
13 King Jr. earned his doctoral degree in theology; in 1955, he
14 organized the Montgomery bus boycott, the first major protest of
15 the civil rights movement, and he devoted himself wholeheartedly to
16 the cause; he led marches across the South to direct America's
17 attention to injustice and oppression, and although physical
18 attacks were a constant threat, he upheld the powerful principle of
19 nonviolent civil disobedience; and

20 WHEREAS, Dr. King's soaring oratory inspired people across
21 the country, and in 1963, at the massive March on Washington, he
22 delivered an address for the ages, outlining his vision of a better
23 America as the words "I have a dream" rang out over the crowd and
24 into history; the following year brought the ratification of the

1 24th Amendment, which abolished the poll tax, and the Civil Rights
2 Act of 1964, which prohibited discrimination in employment and
3 education and outlawed segregation in public facilities; that
4 October, Dr. King was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize; and

5 WHEREAS, In observing this holiday, we focus not only on the
6 legacy of Dr. King, but also on the need to continue his work in
7 behalf of justice, peace, and equal rights for all; now, therefore,
8 be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
10 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby commemorate the annual
11 Grand Prairie Martin Luther King Jr. Day parade and extend to the
12 organizers and participants sincere appreciation for their
13 contributions.