

By: Darby

H.R. No. 152

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Howard College celebrated its 75th anniversary with  
2 a gala event at its main campus in Big Spring on September 30, 2021;  
3 and

4           WHEREAS, The Howard County Junior College District was  
5 established in November 1945, and the following year, 148 students  
6 enrolled, meeting for their first classes on September 30 in the  
7 hospital unit of the former Big Spring Army Air Force Bombardier  
8 School; the institution was admitted to the Association of Texas  
9 Colleges in 1947 and later earned full accreditation from the  
10 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools; in 1951, trustees  
11 passed a resolution to admit students regardless of race, creed, or  
12 color, and that same year, the college moved to its current campus;  
13 and

14           WHEREAS, Renamed Howard College in 1974, the school continued  
15 to grow and thrive, and over the years, a number of new buildings  
16 and programs were added, including the SouthWest College for the  
17 Deaf, the country's first such institution of its kind; today,  
18 under the leadership of President Dr. Cheryl T. Sparks, Howard also  
19 offers courses at its San Angelo and Lamesa campuses, as well as at  
20 the Big Spring Federal Correctional Institution and the Eden  
21 Detention Center; proudly serving a diverse student body, the  
22 college is designated as a Hispanic-Serving Institution, and it has  
23 been ranked among the top Military Friendly Schools in the nation;  
24 and

1           WHEREAS, In commemoration of the college's 75th anniversary,  
2 the Howard community has held various events since November 2020,  
3 including several ribbon cuttings and ground breakings on the Big  
4 Spring Campus; in January 2021, the Big Spring Chamber of Commerce  
5 hosted a grand opening for the school's newly renovated Cactus  
6 Room, which now features state-of-the-art technology for lectures  
7 and special events; and

8           WHEREAS, For three quarters of a century, Howard College has  
9 provided students with important opportunities in higher  
10 education, and in so doing, it has enriched the lives of countless  
11 Texans; now, therefore, be it

12           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas  
13 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby commemorate the 75th  
14 anniversary of Howard College and extend to all those affiliated  
15 with the institution sincere best wishes for continued success;  
16 and, be it further

17           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
18 prepared for the college as an expression of high regard by the  
19 Texas House of Representatives.