

By: Morales of Maverick

H.R. No. 192

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The November 2023 International Indigenous and
2 Native American Indian Gathering in Del Rio, hosted by the Warren
3 Perryman Foundation for Native American Research, provides a
4 fitting opportunity to recognize a valued member of the
5 organization, Rafaela Fay Lozano Brown; and

6 WHEREAS, A historian, matriarch, and head elder of the United
7 Warrior Band of the Seminole Nation, Rafaela Brown is a descendant
8 of the John Horse Band of the Black Seminole tribe, which originated
9 in Florida during Spanish rule; African Americans fleeing slavery
10 found a haven there and assimilated with the Seminole people; in the
11 mid-19th century, John Horse conducted groups of Seminoles along
12 the Trail of Tears to Indian Territory and gained fame as both
13 warrior and diplomat; he went on to lead a Seminole group to Mexico
14 in search of freedom, and his success in fending off bandits and
15 raiders earned him the rank of captain in the Mexican Army; and

16 WHEREAS, The U.S. Army began recruiting Black Seminoles from
17 Mexico to protect the Texas frontier, and in 1870, it established
18 the Seminole Negro Indian Scouts; based at Fort Duncan and Fort
19 Clark, the scouts engaged in 26 campaigns, and several received the
20 Medal of Honor for their actions; many went on to serve in Buffalo
21 Soldier regiments; and

22 WHEREAS, Dedicated to her family's Black Seminole scout
23 heritage, Ms. Brown has followed in the footsteps of her mother, the
24 late Alice Fay Lozano, who contributed to books on tribal history;

1 Ms. Brown is an educator by profession and uses her skills to raise
2 awareness of the role played by Black Seminoles from the pioneer
3 days onward; during the lifetimes of Chief William "Dub" Warrior
4 and his wife, Ethel, she traveled with them to St. Augustine,
5 Florida, to share her knowledge; and

6 WHEREAS, Rafaela Brown has demonstrated an exceptional
7 commitment to the remarkable legacy of the Black Seminole Nation,
8 and she is indeed worthy of special recognition; now, therefore, be
9 it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
11 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby honor Rafaela Fay Lozano
12 Brown for her contributions as a member of the Warren Perryman
13 Foundation for Native American Research and extend to her sincere
14 best wishes for the future; and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
16 prepared for Ms. Brown as an expression of high regard by the Texas
17 House of Representatives.