

By: Morales of Maverick

H.R. No. 193

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 Tony Perryman, the organization's
5 founder and CEO; and

6 WHEREAS, The principal chief of the United Warrior Band of
7 the Seminole Nation, "Thomi" Perryman is a descendant of the John
8 Horse Band of the Black Seminole tribe, which originated in Florida
9 during Spanish rule; African Americans fleeing slavery found a
10 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 service in repelling 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; with numerous ancestral connections to the
22 scouts, Thomi Perryman has fostered knowledge and appreciation of
23 the Black Seminoles as an organizer and lecturer for many events;
24 for a Seminole Days observance in Brackettville, he facilitated

1 exchanges with members of the Lipan Apache Band to explore the
2 complicated history between that tribe and the scouts; he named the
3 Foundation for Native American Research in memory of his
4 great-grandfather, Warren "Juan" Perryman, a culture-bearer who
5 played a key role in securing military headstones from the War
6 Department to mark graves in the Seminole Indian Scouts Cemetery in
7 Brackettville; and

8 WHEREAS, Thomi Perryman has demonstrated an exceptional
9 commitment to the remarkable legacy of the Black Seminole Nation
10 and the Seminole Negro Indian Scouts, and his endeavors have
11 enlightened and engaged innumerable people; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
13 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby honor Tony "Thomi" Perryman
14 for his contributions as founder and CEO of the Warren Perryman
15 Foundation for Native American Research and extend to him sincere
16 best wishes for the future; and, be it further

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