

By: Clardy

H.R. No. 143

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Stephen F. Austin State University is marking the
2 100th anniversary of its founding in 2023; and

3 WHEREAS, Chartered in 1917 as Stephen F. Austin State
4 Teachers College, the school was named in honor of the "Father of
5 Texas," and the site selected for the campus was the homestead of
6 Thomas J. Rusk and property previously owned by Sam Houston, both
7 of whom were the first United States Senators from Texas; the State
8 Board of Regents selected Nacogdoches as the location of the new
9 school due in part to its significance as the oldest town in Texas;
10 the college opened in 1923, with 270 students meeting in an old
11 one-room schoolhouse until the Austin Building at the new campus
12 was completed the following year; and

13 WHEREAS, Over the past century, SFA has become a vital part of
14 the economy and culture of East Texas, and it has been named the top
15 rural-serving institution of its size in the state by the Alliance
16 for Research on Regional Colleges; and

17 WHEREAS, Today, Stephen F. Austin State University serves
18 more than 11,300 students and offers over 120 majors and areas of
19 study across its six colleges; the institution boasts 18 Division I
20 intercollegiate sports teams for men and women, which further
21 enhance the student experience, provide opportunities for
22 student-athletes from across the state, and bring pride to the
23 region; in addition, the university has become an arts and
24 entertainment destination, hosting a variety of theatrical,

1 musical, and speaking events on campus; and

2 WHEREAS, Since its founding 100 years ago, Stephen F. Austin
3 State University has provided generations of Texans with a strong
4 foundation for achievement and contributed greatly to the
5 prosperity and vitality of East Texas, and the university's
6 students, faculty, staff, and alumni may indeed take great pride in
7 their rich history while looking forward to an even brighter
8 future; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
10 Legislature hereby commemorate the centennial of Stephen F. Austin
11 State University and extend to all those associated with the school
12 sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
14 prepared for Stephen F. Austin State University as an expression of
15 high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.