

By: Thompson of Harris

H.R. No. 486

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Houston Independent School District was
2 established 100 years ago, in 1923, in an official act of the Texas
3 Legislature; and

4 WHEREAS, The Houston Independent School District, now
5 enrolling nearly 190,000 students, is the largest school district
6 in Texas and the eighth largest school district in the United
7 States; and

8 WHEREAS, The Houston Independent School District has a long
9 tradition of taking in and educating all students, including
10 students displaced by Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and students
11 attending the North Forest Independent School District, which the
12 Texas Education Agency closed in 2013; and

13 WHEREAS, The Houston Independent School District won the
14 Broad Prize in 2002 and 2013 and is the first two-time winner of the
15 award, which recognizes the public school system with the most
16 substantial gains in student achievement; and

17 WHEREAS, The Houston Independent School District, from 2007
18 to 2020, saw a 30 percent increase in graduation rates and a 125
19 percent increase in students taking the SAT; and

20 WHEREAS, The Houston Independent School District, which
21 created one of its first magnet programs 50 years ago with the first
22 high school for health professions in the nation, today proudly
23 offers a robust portfolio of 128 magnet programs at 119 schools,
24 with programs focused on science, college and careers readiness,

1 early college, fine arts, International Baccalaureate, language
2 immersion, and more; and

3 WHEREAS, The Houston Independent School District in 1927
4 founded community colleges which later became the University of
5 Houston and Texas Southern University, and in 1971 the Houston
6 Independent School District founded the Houston Community College;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, The Houston Independent School District's
9 superintendent, Dr. Rod Paige, in 2001 was appointed by President
10 George W. Bush to serve as the seventh United States Secretary of
11 Education and was the first African American to be selected for the
12 post; and

13 WHEREAS, With more than 27,000 employees, the Houston
14 Independent School District is one of the largest employers in
15 Houston; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
17 Legislature hereby commemorate the Houston Independent School
18 District on the occasion of its 100th year anniversary and extend to
19 the district's students, educators, and staff sincere best wishes
20 for continued success; and, be it further

21 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
22 prepared for the district as an expression of high regard by the
23 Texas House of Representatives.