

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 83

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize the members of the Collins and Rucker families on the occasion of their family reunion, which is being held in Austin October 9 through 12, 2003; and

WHEREAS, On July 12, two sections of Congress Avenue were renamed for a day to honor these two Travis County pioneer families, descendants of David Rucker and Newton Isaac Collins, who have made significant contributions to Central Texas in the areas of military service, agriculture, education, medicine, and business and civic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, David Rucker was born a slave in Tennessee and moved to Texas as a child; he grew up to become a Buffalo Soldier, who distinguished himself in the Indian wars, and he aided in the construction of the Texas State Capitol; he and his wife, Ida Perry Rucker, a teacher, were proponents of education and left a strong legacy to their 12 children and their descendants; and

WHEREAS, Newton Isaac Collins was born and educated in Alabama and brought his carpenter and entrepreneurial skills to Austin in the mid-1800s to build churches and homes; he and his wife, Elizabeth Henderson Collins, had eight children who inherited their parents' carpenter and farming skills and who have continued their parents' legacy through property ownership and stewardship; and

WHEREAS, One of the main events planned for the October family reunion is a ceremony which will be conducted by the

Buffalo Soldiers Association to honor family members who have served in the military; and

WHEREAS, The Collins and Rucker family members are successful and productive men and women who have contributed greatly to their communities through their leadership, integrity, and concern for others, and they deserve to be proud of their many successful endeavors; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby commend members of the Collins and Rucker families and extend to them best wishes for a joyous family reunion; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for them as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Barrientos,
Ellis, West

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on July 21, 2003.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate

Member, Texas Senate

Member, Texas Senate