

By: McClendon

H.R. No. 285

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The dedication of The Steward Center in San Antonio  
2 on February 8, 2004, paid tribute to the numerous contributions to  
3 the residents, both past and present, of the east side of the city  
4 by the late Reverend Shelly Edward Steward, Sr.; and

5           WHEREAS, Born in 1897, Shelly Steward acknowledged the noble  
6 call to preach in 1931; the following year, he was appointed pastor  
7 of the Samaritan Baptist Church in Adkins and the Sweet Home Baptist  
8 Church in Seguin; and

9           WHEREAS, In 1933, during his street ministry and outreach  
10 service in rural eastern San Antonio, Reverend Steward recognized  
11 the need for a place of worship for that community; to that end, he  
12 established Shiloh Baptist Church in an old storefront building,  
13 frequently paying the monthly rent and utilities from his own wages  
14 to keep the fledgling church afloat; and

15           WHEREAS, The Shiloh Baptist Church membership soon grew, and  
16 later moved to a remote part of town where roads were unpaved and  
17 access to city water and sewage services did not exist; Reverend  
18 Steward and other members of the church were successful in  
19 petitioning the city to extend utility service to the area, and in  
20 later years, to provide much-needed public transportation to the  
21 neighborhood; and

22           WHEREAS, In 1945, Reverend Steward was instrumental in  
23 building a new Shiloh Baptist Church with a seating capacity of 400;  
24 in addition, this public-minded clergyman helped establish a day

1 care center for the community; he also served as the chief executive  
2 officer in the organization of the San Antonio City Wide Revival and  
3 moderator of the Guadalupe District Association; and

4 WHEREAS, It is particularly fitting that the name of such a  
5 faithful, diligent, and dedicated east side activist as Reverend  
6 Shelly Edward Steward, Sr., be given to the office building of the  
7 new Spring View Apartments; one of the major revitalization  
8 projects taking place in the city, this development brings the  
9 community one step closer to realizing its potential as a diverse,  
10 thriving, and vital neighborhood in San Antonio; now, therefore, be  
11 it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas  
13 Legislature, 4th Called Session, hereby recognize The Steward  
14 Center as a symbol of the many remarkable accomplishments of the  
15 late Reverend Shelly Edward Steward, Sr., and that this esteemed  
16 Texan be remembered for his many valuable contributions to the  
17 community that he so dearly loved.