

By: Dukes

H.R. No. 45

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, February 2003 is African American Heritage Month
2 and the Austin Independent School District has lent consistent
3 affirmation to this important observance; and

4 WHEREAS, The first celebration of African-American heritage
5 was held in 1926, due to the determined efforts of Dr. Carter G.
6 Woodson, a historian who sought to focus attention on black
7 contributions to civilization; and

8 WHEREAS, The year 1976 saw the week-long commemoration
9 extended to include all of February, a month significant and
10 recognized in African-American history for the birthdays of great
11 African-American pioneers, including W. E. B. DuBois and Frederick
12 Douglass, and the founding of vital institutions such as the NAACP
13 and the first Pan-African Congress; and

14 WHEREAS, The Austin Independent School District (AISD) has
15 long recognized the value of African American Heritage Month, which
16 this year bears the theme "African Americans: Reaffirming our
17 Faith, Family, and Culture"; through their studies, AISD students
18 are encouraged to learn more about the substantial role African
19 Americans have played in our nation's history; and

20 WHEREAS, This important month-long celebration is an ideal
21 way to increase public awareness of the myriad achievements and
22 rich legacy of this nation's African-American leaders; now,
23 therefore, be it

24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas

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1 Legislature hereby recognize February 2003 as African American
2 Heritage Month and commend all those involved with the Austin
3 Independent School District's observance of this notable event.