H.R. No. 295

RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Former State Representative Nathan H. Haller was a 2 notable Texan whose passing on February 27, 1917, at the age of 76, 3 left a gap in Texas history to be bridged over a century later by the 4 echoes of his achievements and accomplishments; and

5 WHEREAS, Born a slave on July 8, 1840, Mr. Haller moved with 6 his master to Walker County, Texas, at an early age, serving his 7 master until he was given his freedom on June 19, 1865; upon 8 receiving his freedom, Mr. Haller remained in Walker County as a 9 farmer and was elected county commissioner for a number of years; 10 and

WHEREAS, In the late 1880s or early 1890s, Mr. Haller moved to Brazoria County and was elected state representative to the 23rd Legislature, and he also served in the 24th Legislature; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Haller was the only African-American Texas state 15 representative in 1893 during the 23rd Legislature; he served on 16 the Roads, Bridges, and Ferries Committee as well as the Labor 17 Committee; and

18 WHEREAS, During the 23rd Legislature, Mr. Haller introduced 19 House Bill 469, "to put in operation, and maintain a branch 20 university for the colored youth of Texas"; and

21 WHEREAS, In 1894, Mr. Haller ran for re-election and was 22 defeated due to a Brazoria county judge failing to count all votes, 23 which would have given Mr. Haller a 50-vote margin of victory; the 24 House Committee on Privileges & Elections ruled in favor of Mr.

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H.R. No. 295 1 Haller, which allowed him to become a member of the 24th 2 Legislature; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Haller retired from politics after his second 4 term; he moved to Houston, where he was working as a wagon driver in 5 1910; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Haller served as a voice for his district, an 7 instrument to education, and a shoulder to his people, and he is to 8 be commended and applauded for his courageousness, endurance, 9 loyalty, and, most notably, his bravery in overcoming conditions 10 many would not have challenged 30 years into their freedom; now, 11 therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas 13 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of former State 14 Representative Nathan H. Haller; and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be 16 prepared for the members of his family.

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Craddick Allen Alonzo Bailey Baxter Berman Bohac Bonnen Branch Brown of Kaufman Brown of Brazos Burnam Callegari Campbell Canales Capelo Casteel Castro Chavez Chisum Christian Coleman Cook of Navarro Cook of Colorado Corte Crabb Crownover Davis of Harris Davis of Dallas Dawson Delisi Denny Deshotel Driver Dukes Dunnam Dutton Edwards Eiland Eissler Elkins Ellis Farabee Farrar Flores Flynn Gallego Garza Gattis Geren

Giddings Goodman Goolsby Griggs Grusendorf Guillen Gutierrez Haggerty Hamilton Hamric Hardcastle Harper**-**Brown Hartnett Heflin Hegar Hiĺderbran Hill Hochberg Hodge Homer Норе Hopson Howard Hughes Hunter Hupp Isett Jones of Lubbock Jones of Bexar Jones of Dallas Keel Keffer of Dallas Keffer of Eastland King Kolkhorst Krusee Kuempel Laney Laubenberg Lewis Luna Mabry Madden Marchant Martinez Fischer McCall McClendon McReynolds Menendez Mercer

Merritt Miller Moreno of Harris Moreno of El Paso Morrison Mowery Naishtat Nixon Noriega Oliveira Olivo Paxton Pena Phillips Pickett Pitts Puente Quintanilla Rangel Raymond Reyna Riddle Ritter Rodriguez Rose Seaman Smith of Tarrant Smith of Harris Smithee Solis Solomons Stick Swinford Talton Taylor Telford Thompson Truitt Turner Uresti Van Arsdale Villarreal West Wilson Wise Wohlgemuth Wolens Wong Woolley Zedler

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 295 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on February 27, 2003.

Chief Clerk of the House