

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Members of the First Presbyterian Church of Orange
2 are marking a significant milestone when they commemorate the 125th
3 anniversary of their historic church; and

4 WHEREAS, In March 1878, area citizens voiced a need for a
5 Presbyterian church in Orange, and on April 6, 1878, Dr. W. H.
6 Vernor and Dr. R. H. Byers and a group of charter members petitioned
7 the presbytery for the establishment of a new church; and

8 WHEREAS, The first small church building was dedicated on
9 July 1, 1883; a new edifice, striking for its one-of-a-kind dome
10 adorned with 16 distinct Christian symbols, was built in 1908 under
11 the leadership of the Reverend Ewell Travis Drake and the
12 supervision of Frances Ann Lutcher; and

13 WHEREAS, Home to the first church radio station, the First
14 Presbyterian Church began airing Sunday services in the 1920s; over
15 the years, the church has been a source of many good works,
16 including support for foreign ministries in Korea and educational
17 ministries in Taishung, Taiwan; and

18 WHEREAS, Today, the Reverend Sam Knight ably leads the
19 congregation of approximately 400 members, and the First
20 Presbyterian Church continues to meet the spiritual needs of people
21 in Orange and beyond; now, therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
23 Legislature hereby honor the First Presbyterian Church of Orange on
24 its 125th anniversary and extend to its congregation warmest best

H.R. No. 948

1 wishes for the future; and, be it further

2 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
3 prepared for the First Presbyterian Church of Orange as an
4 expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.

Hamilton

H.R. No. 948

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 948 was adopted by the House on May 16, 2003, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House