

By: Hamilton

H.R. No. 948

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

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.