

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 10

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to honor the life of Henry Miller Morgan, founder of the first African American barber college, and to celebrate the unveiling of an official historical marker at the site of the college in Tyler; and

WHEREAS, The celebratory ceremony is taking place July 25, 2005, when the historical marker is being presented by the Texas Historical Commission; and

WHEREAS, Henry Morgan, who grew up in the Saint Louis community of Tyler, completed his education at East Texas Academy; he was listed as a barber in the Tyler city directory as early as 1918, but soon he faced laws enacted in the 1920s requiring licensing for barbers; African Americans were denied any opportunity for obligatory education; and

WHEREAS, As a consequence, Henry Morgan began to formulate ideas for opening a barber college for African Americans; he opened a school on Erwin Street in Tyler in 1933; the college was so successful that branches were opened in Houston, Dallas, and Manhattan, and also in Jackson, Mississippi and Little Rock, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, He also helped found the Texas Association of Tonsorial Artists, a professional barbers' organization, and the Democratic Progressive Voters League, one of the oldest African American political organizations in the state; and

WHEREAS, Henry Morgan died in 1961, and now, more than 40 years after his death, this highly regarded civic and political leader is being honored for his valuable contributions to his profession and to the African American community; the placement of an official historical marker at the original location of his school guarantees that his legacy will endure; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby commemorate the life of Henry Miller Morgan and honor the contributions he made to our state; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on June 21, 2005.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate