

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 102

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Odd Fellow and Rebekah Retirement Center; and

WHEREAS, In 1895, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Texas began the work of planning a retirement home for its members and their wives, setting aside \$10,000 to begin a fund to establish a home architecturally commensurate with the growth of the organization; and

WHEREAS, Through interest earned on that fund and with the dues collected from members, a fitting structure was erected and the Odd Fellow and Rebekah Home for the Aged was opened in 1905 in Corsicana; and

WHEREAS, In 1924, the organization embarked on a search for a new site; based on its generous offer of 100 acres of choice farm land and its abundant, pure water supply, the city of Ennis was chosen to be the home of the new retirement center; and

WHEREAS, The new home, three floors high with its front framed by magnificent arches, opened its doors in 1928; the retirement center's original structure was replaced in 1971; a nursing home opened in 1962 as an annex to the retirement center and was relocated to its new building in 1989; and

WHEREAS, The residents of the Odd Fellow and Rebekah Retirement Center live independently but look after each other like a large, extended family; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby commend the founders of the Odd Fellow and Rebekah Retirement Center and all associated with the center today for its 100 years of service to the members of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows; and, be it further

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

Averitt

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on August 15, 2005.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate