

By: McClendon

H.R. No. 213

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The people of San Antonio are indeed privileged to
2 welcome the internationally renowned author, performer, and
3 activist Maya Angelou as part of the city's celebration of Black
4 History Month, and this auspicious occasion offers apt opportunity
5 to reflect on this distinguished visitor's many contributions to
6 American life; and

7 WHEREAS, A native of St. Louis, Dr. Angelou received her
8 formal education in the public schools of Stamps, Arkansas, and San
9 Francisco, California, and the rhythms of her poetry and elegance
10 of her prose have inspired countless individuals; and

11 WHEREAS, Dr. Angelou's great gifts have found expression in
12 an astonishing variety of forms, and among her best-known works are
13 the autobiographical novel *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*, which
14 was nominated for a National Book Award, and the poem "On the Pulse
15 of Morning," which was written and read in honor of President Bill
16 Clinton's inauguration; and

17 WHEREAS, In 1959, Dr. Angelou was tapped by Dr. Martin Luther
18 King, Jr., as the northern coordinator for the Southern Christian
19 Leadership Conference, and in the years since she has continued to
20 give of her time and talent in behalf of the greater good, serving
21 as an ambassador for UNICEF International and on the U.S. Holocaust
22 Memorial Museum Committee; and

23 WHEREAS, The recipient of honorary doctorates from numerous
24 institutions of higher learning, Dr. Angelou is the first Reynolds

1 Professor of American Studies at Wake Forest University, a position
2 she has held since 1981; and

3 WHEREAS, Among the many honors she has been accorded are the
4 Presidential Medal of Arts, the Alston/Jones Civil and Human Rights
5 Award, the North Carolina Award in Literature, and a Grammy for Best
6 Spoken Word Album; and

7 WHEREAS, While the depth and breadth of her accomplishments
8 have assured Dr. Angelou a place in this country's history, she
9 continues to take her message of hope and inspiration to
10 appreciative audiences, and the sheer beauty of her words ensure
11 that all who hear her have a truly meaningful and memorable
12 experience; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
14 Legislature hereby welcome Dr. Maya Angelou to Texas and honor her
15 for her remarkable literary achievements; and, be it further

16 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
17 prepared for Dr. Angelou as an expression of high regard by the
18 Texas House of Representatives.