

By: Hughes

H.R. No. 1175

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Repositories of information about the world in which
2 we live, libraries serve a vital function in their communities, and
3 in May 2005, the Mineola Memorial Library is celebrating 55 years of
4 exemplary service; and

5 WHEREAS, Since it opened in 1950 in a one-room facility with
6 600 donated books, the Mineola Memorial Library has been a
7 treasured asset to the citizens of Wood County as well as a valued
8 resource for patrons throughout East Texas; it currently houses
9 more than 45,000 books and other materials, and its holdings
10 include fiction, nonfiction, reference, Texana, a genealogy and
11 local history collection, and an extensive children's section; and

12 WHEREAS, The library also provides materials for community
13 and church literacy and English programs, and in recent years it has
14 focused on expanding its technical services and programs; to that
15 end, the organization has obtained grants that have provided more
16 than 20 computers for patron use and offers free computer classes to
17 the public; and

18 WHEREAS, Because it is not tax supported, this nonprofit
19 institution relies solely on private donations to sustain its
20 excellent level of service; when the library moved to its current
21 location in 1960, it was onto land provided by a local family and
22 into a building provided by another benefactor, the banker and
23 oilman Harry W. Meredith; the Meredith Foundation continues to
24 provide nearly half of the library's operating expenses, while an

1 endowment fund established by area donors provides income that
2 covers much of the remainder of the operating budget, and the
3 library's dedicated supporters have found ways to raise other funds
4 as needs arise; moreover, planning has begun for a new,
5 state-of-the-art facility to better serve the library's increasing
6 number of patrons; and

7 WHEREAS, Through the years, the Mineola Memorial Library has
8 provided reading materials, research information, and innumerable
9 hours of enjoyment to more than a half-century's worth of
10 enthusiastic readers and patrons, and it is a privilege to join in
11 celebrating the rich history of this notable institution; now,
12 therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
14 Legislature hereby commemorate the 55th anniversary of the Mineola
15 Memorial Library and extend to all those associated with this fine
16 facility sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it
17 further

18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
19 prepared for the library as an expression of high regard by the
20 Texas House of Representatives.