

By: Deshotel

H.R. No. 462

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, In recognition of Black History Month, citizens of
2 Port Arthur are celebrating Local 4-254 of the Oil Chemical & Atomic
3 Workers International Union, one of the Lone Star State's earliest
4 all-black unions; and

5 WHEREAS, This celebration will take place on February 24,
6 2007, at St. Paul United Methodist Church in Port Arthur, the site
7 of the original Local 4-254 Union Hall; and

8 WHEREAS, Chartered in 1933 on the heels of the New Deal's
9 National Industrial Recovery Act, Local 4-254 embraced the civil
10 liberties established in that act, most notably the rights to
11 organize freely and bargain collectively; the local made important
12 contributions to securing union recognition, improved pay, and
13 better working conditions for black oilfield and refinery workers
14 in Port Arthur; and

15 WHEREAS, For 30 years, the dedicated members of Local 4-254
16 pursued the dream of equal rights and equal pay, and the efforts of
17 those notable individuals continue to inspire us today; now,
18 therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
20 Legislature hereby recognize the historical importance of Local
21 4-254 of the Oil Chemical & Atomic Workers International Union and
22 join in celebrating this praiseworthy organization and its
23 achievements; and, be it further

24 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be

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1 prepared for the celebration's organizers as an expression of high
2 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.