

By: Noriega

H.R. No. 1876

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The year 2007 marks the 70th anniversary of the  
2 founding of Stephen F. Austin High School in Houston, and this  
3 milestone provides an opportunity to pay tribute to the rich  
4 history of this esteemed place of learning; and

5           WHEREAS, On a late summer day in 1937, a new red brick  
6 building in southeast Houston opened its doors to students for the  
7 first time; Stephen F. Austin Senior High School began operation in  
8 the midst of the challenging times of the Great Depression, yet it  
9 quickly proved itself an exemplary institution under the direction  
10 of its first principal, George A. Loescher; in the school's 44  
11 classrooms, students received a thorough course of study, and a  
12 wide range of extracurricular activities were available from the  
13 beginning; and

14           WHEREAS, Numerous student organizations and Mustang athletic  
15 teams soon became part of the Austin High story and contributed to  
16 the school's lively and stimulating atmosphere; the Scottish  
17 Brigade, the school's legendary drill team, actually took shape  
18 even before classes began in 1937; over the course of the next 41  
19 years, some 4,000 young women would proudly wear the brigade  
20 uniform, and the organization's traditions and its dedication to  
21 serving Austin High are today carried on by the Scottish Brigade  
22 Alumnae; and

23           WHEREAS, With the passing years, the city of Houston  
24 underwent immense changes, as did the educational needs of its

1 residents, but Austin High School has adapted to the needs of its  
2 students and excelled in its mission, with many of the school's  
3 graduates going on to distinguish themselves in a variety of  
4 endeavors; and

5 WHEREAS, Today, some seven decades after its class bells  
6 first sounded, Stephen F. Austin High School remains a respected  
7 place of learning; in addition to helping its students master  
8 required high school studies, it provides many specialized  
9 offerings, including the Austin High School for Teaching  
10 Professions magnet school, career programs in business,  
11 technology, home economics, and agriculture, and a full slate of  
12 advanced placement courses; and

13 WHEREAS, An important part of Houston's public education  
14 system for nearly three-quarters of a century, Stephen F. Austin  
15 High School has helped prepare countless young people for the  
16 challenges and opportunities of the future, and its legacy of  
17 educational excellence is most deserving of recognition; now,  
18 therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas  
20 Legislature hereby commemorate the 70th anniversary of the founding  
21 of Stephen F. Austin High School in Houston and honor its students,  
22 faculty, and staff, both past and present, for their role in the  
23 storied history of this fine educational institution; and, be it  
24 further

25 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
26 prepared for the school as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
27 House of Representatives.