

By: Dutton

H.R. No. 2978

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Students and alumni of Phillis Wheatley High School  
2 in Houston are joining together to commemorate the 80th anniversary  
3 of the establishment of this notable school during a three-day  
4 celebration from November 8 through November 11, 2007; and

5           WHEREAS, Established in the old McGowan Elementary School  
6 building in Houston's Fifth Ward on January 31, 1927, the school was  
7 named in honor of poet Phillis Wheatley, the first African American  
8 woman to publish a volume of poetry in America, and it was  
9 originally led by principal E. O. Smith, who carefully selected the  
10 school's initial faculty members; and

11           WHEREAS, Located on Lyons Avenue until 1950, Phillis Wheatley  
12 Senior High School was moved to its present site on Market Street  
13 and rededicated in September of that year with principal John E.  
14 Codwell at the helm; the school has subsequently benefited from the  
15 visionary leadership of principals William Moore, A. C. Herald,  
16 Jr., Charles Herbert, Forest Henry, Jr., Eddie Orum, Harold  
17 Crawford, Horace Williams, and Bruce Goffney and current principal  
18 Wiley Johnson; and

19           WHEREAS, Through the years, many of the school's graduates  
20 have had a positive and profound impact in their various fields of  
21 endeavor, and the celebration of this landmark anniversary provides  
22 an ideal opportunity to pay tribute to the school's graduates and to  
23 the dedicated educators who inspired them to achieve their full  
24 potential; now, therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas  
2   Legislature hereby commemorate the 80th anniversary of Phillis  
3   Wheatley High School and extend best wishes to all those in  
4   attendance at the 2007 anniversary celebration; and, be it further

5           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
6   prepared for the school as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
7   House of Representatives.