

By: McClendon

H.R. No. 433

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Pearson, an educational publishing company with
2 offices in San Antonio, is hosting a weekly discussion series in
3 celebration of Black History Month 2009; and

4 WHEREAS, Addressing the theme "The Quest for Black
5 Citizenship in the Americas," guest speakers include such
6 noteworthy members of the community as John "Mule" Miles, who
7 played in the Negro Baseball League, Dr. Dianna Burns-Banks,
8 pediatrician and co-owner of five clinics in medically underserved
9 areas, and Dr. Carey H. Latimore IV, assistant professor of history
10 at Trinity University; and

11 WHEREAS, A black history event was first established in 1926
12 as a weeklong observance by author and scholar Dr. Carter G.
13 Woodson, who sought a means by which to heighten awareness of
14 African American culture and engender pride among black Americans;
15 the tribute was expanded to a month in 1976 and was officially
16 recognized by President Gerald Ford, who encouraged all Americans
17 to pay "tribute to Black History Month and the message of courage
18 and perseverance it brings to all of us"; and

19 WHEREAS, Supporting that sentiment year-round, Pearson is in
20 the fifth year of a plan that includes efforts to have "diversity at
21 the heart of everything" it does, and the company pays special
22 attention to such areas as promotion, retention, recruitment,
23 training, internships, senior leadership, and compensation; and

24 WHEREAS, African Americans have been a significant part of

1 the population of Texas and the United States for hundreds of years,
2 and the celebration of Black History Month acknowledges and
3 promotes the immeasurable benefits of living in a truly diverse
4 society; now, therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
6 Legislature hereby commemorate Black History Month and commend
7 Pearson for its role in honoring the contributions of African
8 Americans; and, be it further

9 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
10 prepared for the company as an expression of high regard by the
11 Texas House of Representatives.