

By: Brown of Kaufman

H.R. No. 1230

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, St. Paul Industrial Training School in Caney City is  
2 receiving an official Texas Historical Marker on May 2, 2009, at a  
3 ceremony hosted by the Henderson County Historical Commission; and

4 WHEREAS, In 1926, St. Paul Industrial Training School was  
5 established by James William Smothers and his wife, Alice Olenza  
6 Smothers; these dedicated pioneers sought to provide both social  
7 and educational services to less privileged youth in Henderson  
8 County, and thus, the school also became a shelter for orphans and  
9 homeless children; in addition to the standard curriculum, students  
10 at St. Paul Industrial Training School were exposed to such  
11 practical skills as home economics, typing, and farming, and they  
12 learned the importance of contributing to society; and

13 WHEREAS, With the commitment of Mr. and Mrs. Smothers, as  
14 well as the support of members of the community and local  
15 philanthropists, the school grew and even recovered after a  
16 devastating tornado in the early 1940s; in 1947, St. Paul  
17 Industrial Training School was chartered as a nonprofit  
18 organization, and although it no longer functioned as a school by  
19 the late 1980s, it was restructured into a scholarship program that  
20 still exists today; St. Paul Industrial Training School,  
21 Incorporated, has continued the mission of Mr. and Mrs. Smothers to  
22 educate and empower youth, offering vital assistance to motivated  
23 students and helping them realize their full potential at Texas  
24 colleges and universities; and

1           WHEREAS, Recognition by the Texas Historical Commission  
2 highlights the significant role that St. Paul Industrial Training  
3 School played in educating and nurturing countless children, and  
4 the official designation provides assurance that the history of  
5 this notable institution will be remembered and honored for years  
6 to come; now, therefore, be it

7           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
8 Legislature hereby commemorate the dedication of a Texas Historical  
9 Marker at St. Paul Industrial Training School in Caney City and  
10 extend to all those involved with this project sincere appreciation  
11 for their commitment to preserving the heritage of the Lone Star  
12 State; and, be it further

13           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
14 prepared for the board of directors of St. Paul Industrial Training  
15 School, Inc., as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of  
16 Representatives.