

By: Branch

H.R. No. 1565

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Woodrow Wilson High School in Dallas is celebrating
2 its 80th anniversary in 2008-2009; and

3 WHEREAS, Designed by noted Dallas architect Mark Lemmon and
4 now a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark, the school opened its doors
5 in 1928; special features of the Elizabethan style building
6 included a gymnasium with an entire wall of glass windows, an
7 auditorium with footlights and a separately ventilated orchestra
8 pit, and a cafeteria that was reportedly "the largest eating place
9 in Dallas" at the time; and

10 WHEREAS, Known from the beginning simply as Woodrow, the
11 school remained the only high school in East Dallas until 1957, and
12 it continues to serve most of "old" East Dallas, including Swiss
13 Avenue, Mount Auburn, Junius Heights, Lakewood, Munger Place, and
14 Hollywood Heights; and

15 WHEREAS, Graduates of Woodrow Wilson have made their mark in
16 virtually every field of endeavor; notable alumni include a chief
17 justice of the Texas Supreme Court, Tom Phillips, U.S. Congressmen
18 Sam Johnson, Jim Collins, and Jim Mattox, who also served as Texas
19 attorney general, race car driver Carroll Shelby, Heisman Trophy
20 winners Tim Brown and Davey O'Brien, professional basketball
21 players Anthony Randolph and Alton Lister, professional golfer
22 Ralph Guldahl, Olympic gold medal tumbler Rowland Wolfe, real
23 estate developer Trammell Crow, actor Jerry Haynes, and musician
24 Steve Miller; and

1 WHEREAS, In 1981, interior scenes for *Crisis at Central*
2 *High*, a drama about the desegregation of a high school in Little
3 Rock, Arkansas, were shot at Woodrow Wilson, and a number of Woodrow
4 students appeared in the film along with its stars, Joanne Woodward
5 and Charles Durning; and

6 WHEREAS, Praised by *D Magazine* as the best comprehensive high
7 school in Dallas, Woodrow Wilson has also been ranked by *Newsweek* as
8 one of the top high schools in the country; in February 2009, the
9 school's principal, Ruth Vail, announced that Woodrow Wilson had
10 been designated the first campus in the Dallas Independent School
11 District to offer the International Baccalaureate; and

12 WHEREAS, Over the course of eight eventful decades, Woodrow
13 Wilson High School has educated thousands of Dallas students and
14 provided a foundation on which they could build rewarding and
15 fulfilling lives; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
17 Legislature hereby commemorate the 80th anniversary of the opening
18 of Woodrow Wilson High School and extend to all those associated
19 with the school sincere best wishes for continued success in all
20 their endeavors; and, be it further

21 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
22 prepared for Woodrow Wilson High School as an expression of high
23 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.