RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Texas House of Representatives is pleased to recognize Saint Martin's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Austin on the grand occasion of its 125th anniversary; and

WHEREAS, A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Saint Martin's Evangelical Lutheran Church traces its roots back to 1883, when bimonthly German Lutheran worship services were conducted by Reverend Henry Merz, a missionary from Switzerland; and

WHEREAS, The church's first structure was built in 1884 on East Peach Street, now 13th Street, with handmade bricks salvaged from the original Capitol, which had been destroyed by fire; since then, the church has grown considerably and has moved twice because of expansion of the Capitol grounds; the cornerstones of the first two churches have been placed in the front wall of the present building, which was dedicated in 1960 and is located on West 15th Street; and

WHEREAS, Over the past 125 years, the church has ministered faithfully to the needs of the citizens of Austin and has continued to grow and prosper; the church has a Lutheran school and a Stephen's Ministry and offers a variety of support groups and outreach programs; and

WHEREAS, The church has also served as an invaluable source of strength to its members during their hardships and in difficult times; and
WHEREAS, The observance of the church's 125th anniversary offers an opportunity to celebrate the support and inspiration it provides to area citizens and its contributions to the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas Legislature hereby extend best wishes to the clergy and members of Saint Martin's Evangelical Lutheran Church on the joyous occasion of its 125th anniversary; and, be it further

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