

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 946

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Frank Rollins of Houston, who was invited to take part in National Train Day ceremonies in Philadelphia honoring the legacy of Pullman porters and the part they played in making America's trains run; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Rollins worked as a Pullman porter after working several years as a dining car waiter; from his home in Chicago, he made runs to Columbus, Georgia, for the Illinois Central Railroad, and he also worked the dining car of the plush, all-Pullman Panama Limited to the Gulf Coast; and

**WHEREAS**, A native of Waterproof, Louisiana, Mr. Rollins moved to Chicago at the age of 20 to obtain work at the railroad; in addition to his work with the Illinois Central Railroad, he worked for the Santa Fe Railroad and the New York, Chicago, and Saint Louis Railroad, famously known as the "Nickel Plate Road"; and

**WHEREAS**, Pullman porters and dining car waiters played an important role in African American history as part of the emerging black middle class; although they worked grueling schedules for meager salaries and tips, they were still able to raise their families and set money aside; and

**WHEREAS**, Following his stint as a Pullman porter, Mr. Rollins ran a restaurant in Chicago and worked as a jeweler; he has lived in Houston since 1955, retiring from the jewelry business in 1982, and he now enjoys the outdoors and going fishing on the coast; he is truly deserving of recognition for his lifetime of hard work and for the part he has played in the development and progress of this nation; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 81st Legislature, hereby commend Frank Rollins on his contributions to the legacy of Pullman porters; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for him as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Ellis

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the  
above Resolution was adopted by  
the Senate on May 18, 2009.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate