

By: Veasey

H.R. No. 272

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Wilbert M. Curtis Texas Prince Hall Library
2 Museum in Fort Worth celebrated its official opening on June 25,
3 2011; and

4 WHEREAS, Located at the Prince Hall Grand Masonic Temple, the
5 library museum focuses on the rich history of African American
6 Freemasonry in Texas, which spans 136 years; and

7 WHEREAS, The facility displays a broad range of artifacts
8 related to the fraternal order, including ornate furnishings and
9 ritual items used by its members through the years as well as
10 portraits of past grand masters; and

11 WHEREAS, Among the documents housed in the library museum are
12 the 1876 charter for San Antonio Lodge No. 1, the first in the Lone
13 Star State; in addition, the archive of membership records includes
14 detailed information on the families of past Masons, which will be a
15 valuable resource for genealogical researchers; and

16 WHEREAS, Through the decades, African American Masonic
17 lodges have played an integral role in the development of
18 communities through the State of Texas, and the Wilbert M. Curtis
19 Texas Prince Hall Library Museum serves as a showcase for
20 interesting and informative material about these vibrant
21 organizations and the dedicated individuals who have helped guide
22 their accomplishments; now, therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
24 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby commemorate the opening of

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1 the Wilbert M. Curtis Texas Prince Hall Library Museum in Fort Worth
2 and commend all those responsible for the creation of this notable
3 cultural resource; and, be it further

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