

By: Branch

H.C.R. No. 10

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Southern Methodist University is celebrating the  
2 100th anniversary of its founding and 10 decades of educational  
3 excellence in 2011; and

4 WHEREAS, Created in 1911 by what is now the United Methodist  
5 Church with support from Dallas community leaders, Southern  
6 Methodist University is a private institution of higher education  
7 that is nonsectarian in its teaching; recognized as a top-tier  
8 national university by *U.S. News & World Report*, the school has an  
9 enrollment of nearly 11,000 students who come from all 50 states and  
10 more than 90 foreign countries and who represent diverse economic,  
11 ethnic, and religious backgrounds; and

12 WHEREAS, SMU offers 123 undergraduate degree programs and 127  
13 graduate and professional programs, including 25 doctorates  
14 through seven schools in the humanities and sciences, performing,  
15 visual, and communication arts, business, engineering, education  
16 and human development, law, and theology; its 10 libraries house  
17 the largest private collection of research materials in the  
18 Southwest, with more than three million volumes; the school has  
19 more than 660 full-time faculty members and nearly 112,000 alumni  
20 worldwide, with about half that number residing in Texas; and

21 WHEREAS, Along with a threefold increase in applications over  
22 the last 15 years, SMU has seen the average SAT scores of its  
23 first-year undergraduate students rise approximately 100 points in  
24 the past decade; the university has greatly expanded its study

1 abroad options, and now affords access to 145 programs in nearly 50  
2 countries; SMU's endowment surpassed \$1 billion in 2005; and

3 WHEREAS, SMU will be the site of the George W. Bush  
4 Presidential Center, which will feature a library, museum, and  
5 independent institute and is scheduled to open in 2013; the  
6 university is also home to the Meadows Museum, which boasts one of  
7 the finest collections of Spanish artworks outside of Spain, with  
8 pieces by El Greco, Velazquez, Goya, Picasso, and Miro; and

9 WHEREAS, Over the course of an eventful century, Southern  
10 Methodist University has provided its students with an education  
11 that has enriched them both academically and personally, and in so  
12 doing, the school has made important contributions to Texas and the  
13 world beyond; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the 82nd Legislature of the State of Texas  
15 hereby honor Southern Methodist University for its 10 decades of  
16 outstanding service and extend to the university's administration,  
17 faculty, staff, students, and alumni sincere best wishes for a  
18 successful centennial celebration; and, be it further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
20 prepared for Southern Methodist University as an expression of high  
21 regard by the Texas House of Representatives and Senate.