H.R. No. 886

RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, An official Texas Historical Marker honoring the 2 proud history of George Washington Carver High School in Baytown is 3 being dedicated at a ceremony on April 30, 2011; and

WHEREAS, The culmination of a joint effort between the Baytown Carver High School Recognition and Preservation Society and the Harris County Historical Commission, the marker will allow visitors to learn more about the school's vital role in the education of African American children in Baytown; and

9 WHEREAS, George Washington Carver High School traces its 10 origins to the first public African American elementary school in 11 the area, which was founded in 1921 and moved to a site at Carver and 12 Oak Streets in 1924; the school was expanded to include students 13 through the ninth grade in 1927 and was later named for the 14 well-known scientist, educator, and inventor George Washington 15 Carver; and

WHEREAS, The campus became a four-year high school in 1941 16 and moved into a new building four blocks away in 1948; the students 17 of Carver High excelled at both academics and extracurricular 18 activities, earning their alma mater distinction as one of the top 19 20 African American high schools in the state; through the years, the 21 school won nine state band competitions and eight state sports championships sanctioned by the Prairie View Interscholastic 22 23 League; and

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WHEREAS, The high school was closed in 1967 when the Baytown

1

H.R. No. 886

1 schools were desegregated; the building served as the home of 2 George Washington Carver Elementary School until 1995 and was 3 demolished in 2002, though a new Carver Elementary was opened 4 nearby, carrying the school's name and its tradition of educational 5 excellence into the 21st century; and

6 WHEREAS, Over the course of its history, George Washington 7 Carver High School figured prominently in the lives of many Baytown 8 youth, and the dedication of this historical marker provides a 9 fitting tribute to the essential role it played in educating 10 several generations of city residents; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas 12 Legislature hereby commemorate the establishment of a Texas 13 Historical Marker on the site of George Washington Carver High 14 School in Baytown and commend all those responsible for their 15 efforts to bring this worthwhile initiative to fruition; and, be it 16 further

17 RESOLVED, That official copies of this resolution be prepared 18 for the Baytown Carver High School Recognition and Preservation 19 Society and the Harris County Historical Commission as expressions 20 of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.

Smith of Harris

2

H.R. No. 886

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 886 was adopted by the House on April 7, 2011, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House