

By: Smith of Harris

H.R. No. 886

R E S O L U T I O N

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

4 WHEREAS, The culmination of a joint effort between the
5 Baytown Carver High School Recognition and Preservation Society and
6 the Harris County Historical Commission, the marker will allow
7 visitors to learn more about the school's vital role in the
8 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

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

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

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.