

By: Workman

H.R. No. 1344

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Austin Waldorf School is celebrating its 30th
2 anniversary on April 16, 2011; and

3 WHEREAS, Waldorf Education is based on the idea that
4 individuals pass through distinct life stages and that it is the
5 responsibility of education to address the physical, social,
6 emotional, intellectual, and spiritual needs of each stage; the
7 philosophy was developed by Rudolf Steiner, an Austrian scientist,
8 philosopher, and artist who lived and worked in the late 19th and
9 early 20th centuries; and

10 WHEREAS, The Austin Waldorf School grew out of the vision of
11 Helen Steele, who began lecturing about and giving workshops on
12 Waldorf Education after moving to Texas in the early 1970s; thanks
13 to her efforts and those of like-minded people, the institution
14 opened in 1980 with 11 first-grade children; the following year,
15 the school added a kindergarten, as well as second and fourth
16 grades, and by its sixth year, it enrolled students through the
17 eighth grade; and

18 WHEREAS, The summer of 1986 marked another milestone in the
19 school's history as it took up permanent residence on 11 acres
20 southwest of Austin from its original location at the Johnson House
21 on Town Lake; since then, the campus has grown to include 19 acres
22 with classrooms, studios, and performing arts and athletic
23 facilities, while the institution has expanded its offerings to
24 accommodate the needs of the community; years of hard work and

1 planning led to the addition of high school classes in the late
2 1990s, and the first class of seniors graduated in 2001; and

3 WHEREAS, Cultivating in its students creative thinking,
4 self-confidence, a lifelong love of learning, a sympathetic
5 interest in the world and others, and an abiding sense of moral
6 purpose, the Austin Waldorf School has made a positive difference
7 in the lives of numerous young people and their families, and its
8 rich tradition of academic and artistic engagement is indeed worthy
9 of recognition; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
11 Legislature hereby commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Austin
12 Waldorf School and extend to its faculty, staff, students, and
13 supporters sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it
14 further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
16 prepared for the school as an expression of high regard by the Texas
17 House of Representatives.