

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 888

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to join the Harris County Historical Commission in recognizing the Married Ladies Social, Art, and Charity Club of America, whose clubhouse is receiving an official Texas Historical Marker on June 4, 2011; and

WHEREAS, In the early 20th century, many black women became progressive leaders and devoted their time to social activities through clubs; on September 8, 1902, 12 women of Houston's black society founded the Married Ladies Social, Art, and Charity Club to improve the social welfare of its members and of the community; women in the club were required to live up to the club's moral, social, and spiritual ideals; and

WHEREAS, The club's early activities included decorating floats for Juneteenth parades and aiding victims of the 1912 fire that devastated the Fifth Ward; in 1953, the club began to meet in its first clubhouse, at 1902 Berry Avenue; in 1967, the members purchased a building at 1814 Southmore Boulevard to act as its new meeting place, and it is this building that will be honored with a historical marker; and

WHEREAS, Over the years, members of the Married Ladies Social, Art, and Charity Club have included noted civic leaders and social and civil rights advocates; the club has helped those in need with donations, aided battered women, operated a scholarship program, and offered lodging for distinguished black visitors who were not allowed to stay in local hotels because of segregation laws; and

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WHEREAS, Today, the Married Ladies Social, Art, and Charity Club of America continues its mission of change through charitable, educational, and social services to the community; a Texas Historical Marker signifies the club's importance in the development of the history and culture of this state and honors its many accomplishments; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 82nd Legislature, hereby extend best wishes to members of the Married Ladies Social, Art, and Charity Club of America for a memorable historical marker dedication; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared as a memento of this special event.

Ellis

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 2, 2011.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate