

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, In February of each year, Black History Month is
2 commemorated throughout the nation, and this special observance
3 helps focus public attention on the contributions that African
4 Americans have made to the past development and ongoing progress of
5 the United States of America; and

6 WHEREAS, The celebration in 2013 takes on further resonance
7 as it marks the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation
8 and the 50th anniversary of the March on Washington; and

9 WHEREAS, Those events stand as two of the best-known episodes
10 in the long history of African Americans' unrelenting quest for
11 full equality and inclusion; the Emancipation Proclamation, issued
12 by President Abraham Lincoln on January 1, 1863, provided a hopeful
13 sign that the era of slavery might soon be over; before that point
14 in U.S. history, most blacks were not allowed to live as free men
15 and women, and yet they played an essential part in building the
16 nation into a land of prosperity and immense potential even as they
17 were denied the freedom and equality that were its highest ideals;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, Freed of their shackles at the end of the Civil War,
20 black citizens applied themselves to new realms of endeavor; in
21 Texas, African Americans excelled in tasks that ranged from riding
22 herd on cattle to manning frontier outposts to serving as state
23 legislators; moreover, a people who just a few short years before
24 had been held in bondage enrolled in schools and colleges as they

1 sought a path to a better future and a means of coping with the
2 difficult challenges that surrounded them; and

3 WHEREAS, The obstacles of segregation, disenfranchisement,
4 and institutionalized discrimination would persist for nearly a
5 century after emancipation came to pass, but ultimately the
6 nation's black residents would come to know the truth of their
7 rallying cry, "we shall overcome"; one of the pivotal moments of
8 that struggle came a half-century ago in the March on Washington,
9 when 250,000 U.S. citizens converged on our nation's capital to
10 demand change; buoyed by the inspiring words of Dr. Martin Luther
11 King, Jr., the marchers helped carry forward a civil rights
12 movement that had been many decades in the making and that had
13 included important victories by black Texans; within two years of
14 the March on Washington, the passage of two landmark pieces of
15 legislation, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act
16 of 1965, helped the country to take a huge stride toward the goal of
17 truly offering liberty and justice for all; and

18 WHEREAS, The story of African Americans in America is
19 integral to the history of this country, and the substance of that
20 story, now nearly 400 years in the making, is indeed deserving of
21 remembrance and recognition; now, therefore, be it

H.R. No. 513

1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
2 Legislature hereby commemorate Black History Month in February 2013
3 and pay tribute to the rich legacy of African Americans in the
4 United States.

Giddings
Collier
Johnson
Turner of Collin
Allen
Naishtat

Straus	M. Gonzalez of El Paso	Oliveira
Allen	N. Gonzalez of El Paso	Orr
Alonzo	Gooden	Otto
Alvarado	Guerra	Paddie
Anchia	Guillen	Parker
Anderson	Gutierrez	Patrick
Ashby	Harless	Perez
Aycock	Harper-Brown	Perry
Bell	Hernandez Luna	Phillips
Bohac	Herrero	Pickett
Bonnen of Brazoria	Hilderbran	Pitts
Bonnen of Galveston	Howard	Price
Branch	Huberty	Raney
Burkett	Hughes	Ratliff
Burnam	Hunter	Raymond
Button	Isaac	Reynolds
Callegari	Johnson	Riddle
Canales	Kacal	Ritter
Capriglione	Keffer	Rodriguez of Bexar
Carter	King of Hemphill	Rodriguez of Travis
Clardy	King of Parker	Rose
Coleman	King of Taylor	Sanford
Collier	King of Zavala	Schaefer
Cook	Kleinschmidt	Sheets
Cortez	Klick	Sheffield of Bell
Craddick	Kolkhorst	Sheffield of Coryell
Creighton	Krause	Simmons
Crownover	Kuempel	Simpson
Dale	Larson	Smith
Darby	Laubenberg	Smithee
Davis of Dallas	Lavender	Springer
J. Davis of Harris	Leach	Stephenson
S. Davis of Harris	Lewis	Stickland
Deshotel	Longoria	Strama
Dukes	Lozano	Taylor
Dutton	Lucio III	Thompson of Brazoria
Eiland	Marquez	Thompson of Harris
Elkins	Martinez	Toth
Fallon	Martinez Fischer	Turner of Collin
Farias	McClendon	Turner of Harris
Farney	Menendez	Turner of Tarrant
Farrar	Miles	Villalba
Fletcher	Miller of Comal	Villarreal
Flynn	Miller of Fort Bend	Vo
Frank	Moody	Walle
Frullo	Morrison	White
Geren	Munoz, Jr.	Workman
Giddings	Murphy	Wu
Goldman	Naishtat	Zedler
Gonzales	Nevarez	Zerwas

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 513 was adopted by the House on February 20, 2013, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House