

By: Perez

H.R. No. 936

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud students, teachers, and community members are
2 gathering to celebrate the designation of Robert E. Lee High School
3 in Baytown as a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark with a marker
4 dedication ceremony on April 27, 2013; and

5 WHEREAS, Awarded by the Texas Historical Commission, the RTHL
6 designation recognizes the historical and architectural
7 significance of the Robert E. Lee High School building, which
8 opened in 1928; originally the only high school in what is now the
9 Goose Creek Consolidated Independent School District, Robert E. Lee
10 initially served an area whose population had swelled after the
11 discovery of the Goose Creek Oil Field in 1908; when it was
12 established, the school was centrally located in order to serve
13 Baytown, Goose Creek, Pelly, and Wooster, and over the years it
14 helped to create a sense of community among local residents by
15 hosting numerous civic events; in addition, Lee Junior College held
16 classes on the campus from 1934 to 1951; and

17 WHEREAS, Robert E. Lee students have excelled at both
18 academics and athletics throughout the school's history and have
19 gone on to contribute to society in myriad fields of endeavor; among
20 the alumni of the school are the actor Gary Busey, football player
21 Charles Godfrey, and basketball player and coach Clayton Shields;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, A distinctive structure in the art deco style, Lee
24 High School was designed by Harry D. Payne, a well-known Houston

1 architect; the building incorporates such elegant touches as a
2 stucco facade, terra cotta roof tiles, and brick-trimmed niches
3 with urns; after a devastating fire in 1987, area citizens came
4 together and ensured that the school was restored to its original
5 appearance; and

6 WHEREAS, For more than eight decades, Robert E. Lee High
7 School has made a vital contribution to the surrounding community,
8 and it is indeed fitting that this integral part of the area's
9 history be appropriately recognized; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
11 Legislature hereby commemorate the dedication of a Recorded Texas
12 Historic Landmark plaque at Robert E. Lee High School in Baytown and
13 extend to the event's organizers and their guests sincere best
14 wishes for a meaningful and memorable event; and, be it further

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