

By: Orr

H.R. No. 1015

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Members of Grandview Masonic Lodge No. 266 are
2 dedicating an official Texas Historical Marker at the lodge on
3 March 30, 2013, in recognition of the important role that
4 organization has played in the community for more than 150 years;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, The oldest Masonic group in continuous existence in
7 Johnson County, the Grandview lodge was chartered on June 14, 1861,
8 shortly after the town of Grandview was laid out; those petitioning
9 for the charter--D. L. Files, Andrew Jackson Hart, A. D. Kinnard,
10 B. B. Lightfoot, W. W. Madison, L. M. Richards, and Thomas Darcy
11 Taliaferro--were among the county's leading citizens; early
12 members also included Elbert Monroe Heath, who had played a leading
13 role in organizing the county and who served in several county
14 offices, and James Hiner, a Methodist minister who served as
15 postmaster and county judge; and

16 WHEREAS, Lodge activities were initially held in a log
17 building that the Masons shared with the local Methodist Church and
18 with a school, which the Masons were instrumental in organizing;
19 after the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad bypassed the young
20 community in 1882, residents moved to be closer to the tracks, and
21 the Masons relocated their lodge as well; except for an
22 interruption caused by a fire that devastated much of the town in
23 1920, the members of the lodge have been meeting at the same site in
24 Grandview since 1895; and

1 WHEREAS, In addition to supporting Masonry's charitable
2 endeavors throughout Texas, members of the Grandview lodge assist
3 their community in a number of ways; local programs include the
4 promotion of dental health care among first graders and the
5 awarding of scholarships to area students; and

6 WHEREAS, Through its longstanding tradition of community
7 involvement, the Grandview Masonic Lodge has made significant
8 contributions to Grandview and its residents, and it is indeed
9 fitting that this venerable organization be recognized; now,
10 therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
12 Legislature hereby commemorate the dedication of an official Texas
13 Historical Marker at Grandview Masonic Lodge No. 266 and extend to
14 all those associated with the lodge sincere best wishes for
15 continued success; and, be it further

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