

By: Miles

H.R. No. 1557

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The performing arts contribute greatly to the
2 cultural richness of the Lone Star State, and on May 12, 2013,
3 residents of Houston are celebrating the 90th anniversary of one of
4 the city's most popular venues, the Miller Outdoor Theatre in
5 Hermann Park; and

6 WHEREAS, Originally built as a permanent bandstand for
7 municipal use, the former Miller Memorial Theatre was founded in
8 1923 at the bequest of Jesse Wright Miller, a mining engineer and
9 cotton broker; the first presentation at the venue, *Springtimes of*
10 *Our Nation*, featured some 2,500 performers, and the theater's
11 inaugural production, *The Rose Maiden*, was led by the director of
12 city bands; in the ensuing years, sports fans gathered at the venue
13 to listen to radio broadcasts of the World Series and world
14 championship boxing matches, and in 1941, the Houston Symphony
15 played its first free concert there; and

16 WHEREAS, The award-winning structure that exists today
17 opened in 1968 with a show by the Houston Symphony, and that same
18 year marked the beginning of a 45-year history of annual musicals
19 performed by the Theatre Under the Stars company; today, events at
20 Miller range from celebrations of Juneteenth and Cinco de Mayo to
21 Motown concerts to Chinese dance to Bollywood films; with the
22 guidance of the Miller Theatre Advisory Board and Houston First
23 Corporation and with funding from the City of Houston, the Miller
24 Outdoor Theatre currently offers more than 130 free performances

1 every year, and nearly half a million Houstonians turn out annually
2 for the entertainment; and

3 WHEREAS, For nine decades, the Miller Outdoor Theatre has
4 played an important role in the life of the Bayou City, and it is
5 indeed a pleasure to honor this beloved landmark on the occasion of
6 this milestone year; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
8 Legislature hereby commemorate the 90th anniversary of the Miller
9 Outdoor Theatre and extend to all those involved in its operation
10 sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

11 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
12 prepared for the venue as an expression of high regard by the Texas
13 House of Representatives.