

By: Thompson of Harris

H.R. No. 1897

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The descendants of Josiah McIntosh, Sr., are
2 gathering in Jefferson from August 30 through September 1, 2013,
3 for their much-anticipated annual family reunion, an event they
4 have held now for 100 consecutive years; and

5 WHEREAS, Josiah "Joe" McIntosh, Jr., was inspired by his
6 102-year-old father, Josiah McIntosh, Sr., to organize the family's
7 first gathering; the elder McIntosh, a former slave, had seen the
8 terrible effects of slavery on families, splitting them apart and
9 denying them the opportunity to be together, and he always
10 emphasized the importance of knowing and supporting one's kin; and

11 WHEREAS, In June 1913, Joe McIntosh, Jr., and his wife,
12 Mattie Ruffin, hosted their siblings and their families as well as
13 14 of the couple's children and their families in their Jefferson
14 home, and this tradition of feast and fellowship has continued in
15 the 10 decades that have followed; and

16 WHEREAS, The McIntosh-Ruffin reunion offers those in
17 attendance an opportunity to reflect on their rich legacy and to
18 strengthen the bonds that have united their extended families for
19 generations; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
21 Legislature hereby commemorate the 2013 McIntosh-Ruffin Family
22 Reunion and extend to its organizers and participants sincere best
23 wishes for an enjoyable and memorable event; and, be it further

24 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be

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1 prepared for the McIntosh-Ruffin family as an expression of high
2 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.