

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Each year, myriad events and activities signal the
2 celebration of February as Black History Month, and commemorations
3 in 2015 coincide with the 140th anniversary of the birth year of
4 Dr. Carter Godwin Woodson, the eminent African American historian
5 who, more than anyone, is responsible for this observance; and

6 WHEREAS, Born in Virginia in 1875, Carter Woodson was the
7 eldest son of two former slaves, Anna Eliza and James Woodson; he
8 received little schooling as a child, spending most of his time
9 doing farm work to help support his family, and in his teens he
10 became a coal miner; when he at last entered high school at the age
11 of 20, he proved to be such a fine student that he finished in two
12 years; this gifted and determined young man went on to attend Berea
13 College and earn bachelor's and master's degrees from the
14 University of Chicago, and in 1912, he became the second African
15 American, after W. E. B. Du Bois, to earn a Ph.D. from Harvard
16 University; and

17 WHEREAS, Dr. Woodson dedicated his career as a scholar to the
18 study and dissemination of African American history, working to
19 ensure that it was taught in schools and universities; in 1915, he
20 helped to found the Association for the Study of Negro Life and
21 History (ASNLH), now known as the Association for the Study of
22 African American Life and History, and the following year he
23 launched the highly regarded *Journal of Negro History*, today *The*
24 *Journal of African American History*; he served as a dean at Howard

1 University and at the West Virginia Collegiate Institute, and he
2 published more than a dozen books, including his famous critique,
3 *The Mis-Education of the Negro*; and

4 WHEREAS, In 1926, Dr. Woodson and the ASNLH sponsored the
5 first Negro History Week, choosing the second week in February
6 because it encompassed the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and
7 Abraham Lincoln; Dr. Woodson's and the association's efforts
8 inspired schools and communities to sponsor local events, establish
9 history clubs, and host lectures and performances, and over the
10 following decades, mayors across the nation began issuing Negro
11 History Week proclamations each February; and

12 WHEREAS, In the 1960s, the civil rights movement and a
13 growing acknowledgment of African American contributions to the
14 development of this country led many colleges to devote a full month
15 to the study and celebration of black history, and in 1976,
16 President Gerald R. Ford became the first president to recognize
17 February as Black History Month; every president since then has
18 followed suit, bringing to fruition Dr. Woodson's dream of making
19 African American history one of the foundational stories of
20 American history and culture; and

21 WHEREAS, By the time of his death in 1950, Dr. Carter G.
22 Woodson had created a body of scholarship that helped bring the
23 long-neglected history of African Americans into the full light of
24 day, and his role in the creation of Black History Month continues
25 to inspire Americans of all races and every generation; now,
26 therefore, be it

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas

H.R. No. 719

1 Legislature hereby commemorate Black History Month 2015 and pay
2 tribute to the life and achievements of Dr. Carter Godwin Woodson.

Reynolds

Straus	Guerra	Otto
Allen	Guillen	Paddie
Alonzo	Gutierrez	Parker
Alvarado	Harless	Paul
Anchia	Hernandez	Peña
Anderson of Dallas	Herrero	Phelan
Anderson of McLennan	Howard	Phillips
Ashby	Huberty	Pickett
Aycock	Hughes	Price
Bell	Hunter	Raney
Blanco	Isaac	Raymond
Bohac	Israel	Reynolds
Bonnen of Brazoria	Johnson	Riddle
Bonnen of Galveston	Kacal	Rinaldi
Burkett	Keffer	Rodriguez of Bexar
Burns	Keough	Rodriguez of Travis
Burrows	King of Hemphill	Romero, Jr.
Button	King of Parker	Rose
Canales	King of Taylor	Sanford
Capriglione	King of Uvalde	Schaefer
Clardy	Klick	Schofield
Coleman	Koop	Shaheen
Collier	Krause	Sheets
Cook	Kuempel	Sheffield
Craddick	Landgraf	Simmons
Crownover	Larson	Simpson
Dale	Laubenberg	Smith
Darby	Leach	Smithee
Davis of Dallas	Longoria	Spitzer
Davis of Harris	Lozano	Springer
Deshotel	Lucio III	Stephenson
Dukes	Márquez	Stickland
Dutton	Martinez	Thompson of Brazoria
Elkins	Martinez Fischer	Thompson of Harris
Faircloth	McClendon	Tinderholt
Fallon	Menéndez	Turner of Collin
Farias	Metcalf	Turner of Harris
Farney	Meyer	Turner of Tarrant
Farrar	Miles	VanDeaver
Fletcher	Miller of Comal	Villalba
Flynn	Miller of Fort Bend	Vo
Frank	Moody	Walle
Frullo	Morrison	White of Bell
Galindo	Muñoz, Jr.	White of Tyler
Geren	Murphy	Workman
Giddings	Murr	Wray
Goldman	Naishtat	Wu
Gonzales	Nevárez	Zedler
González	Oliveira	Zerwas

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 719 was adopted by the House on February 26, 2015, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House