

By: Gooden

H.R. No. 70

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Current and former residents of Ables Springs, in  
2 Kaufman County, celebrated the Ables Springs Cemetery centennial  
3 homecoming on July 16, 2017; and

4           WHEREAS, The community of Ables Springs is situated on land  
5 that was granted in 1838 to Ezekiel Ables; Mr. Ables's son and  
6 daughter-in-law, James and Eliza Ables, settled on the property in  
7 1853, and in 1878 they donated approximately nine acres to the  
8 Methodist Episcopal Church, South; in addition to using that land  
9 for campground meetings, area residents built a tabernacle, church  
10 building, and school there and also established a cemetery; the  
11 first known burial took place in 1880, and a number of Civil War  
12 veterans were subsequently interred in the graveyard, which was  
13 designated a Historic Texas Cemetery by the Texas Historical  
14 Commission in 2002; the cemetery has continued to expand over the  
15 years, and today it remains a place where residents can lay their  
16 loved ones to rest; and

17           WHEREAS, Individuals with ties to this close-knit community  
18 have been coming together for an annual homecoming celebration  
19 since 1917; this year's gathering, organized by the Ables Springs  
20 Cemetery Association, featured a lunch, a memorial service, and a  
21 cookbook sale that helped raise funds for cemetery maintenance; and

22           WHEREAS, The Ables Springs Cemetery has played an important  
23 role in the community for nearly 140 years, and this special  
24 occasion presents a welcome opportunity to recognize this historic

1 site; now, therefore, be it

2           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
3 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby commemorate the 100th  
4 anniversary of the Ables Springs Cemetery homecoming and extend to  
5 all the members of the Ables Springs Cemetery Association sincere  
6 best wishes for the future; and, be it further

7           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
8 prepared for the association as an expression of high regard by the  
9 Texas House of Representatives.