

By: Collier

H.R. No. 301

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The Tarrant County Black Historical and  
2 Genealogical Society celebrated its 40th anniversary on April 22,  
3 2017; and

4           WHEREAS, The organization was established in 1977 by  
5 journalist and political activist Lenora Butler Rolla to expand  
6 knowledge and appreciation of Tarrant County's African American  
7 heritage; Mrs. Rolla had discovered that most materials related to  
8 local African American history were held in private collections,  
9 and she united a group of 21 charter members to create a public  
10 archive; and

11           WHEREAS, Through the years, the society worked to locate,  
12 collect, analyze, organize, and preserve artifacts reflecting the  
13 African American experience and accomplishments in education,  
14 science, business, politics, sports, and the arts; many families  
15 donated records and personal items, from vintage clothes to  
16 photographs, that reveal what life was like for African Americans  
17 in the community's past; and

18           WHEREAS, The society's collection was housed at the Fort  
19 Worth Public Library's Genealogy, History, and Archives Unit for a  
20 time; the public can now view permanent displays and special  
21 exhibitions at the Lenora Rolla Heritage Center Museum, located in  
22 a restored home, the Boone House, in the Terrell Heights Historic  
23 District; and

24           WHEREAS, The Tarrant County Black Historical and

1 Genealogical Society has significantly heightened awareness of the  
2 important role played by African Americans in the community, and  
3 through its dedicated stewardship of a rich legacy, the  
4 organization has helped develop a broader perspective on the  
5 heritage of Tarrant County; now, therefore, be it

6         RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
7 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby commemorate the 40th  
8 anniversary of the Tarrant County Black Historical and Genealogical  
9 Society and extend to all those associated with the organization  
10 sincere best wishes for continued success in their endeavors; and,  
11 be it further

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