

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Members of Smith Point Community Church, in Chambers  
2 County, are gathering on April 29, 2017, to dedicate an Official  
3 Texas Historical Marker honoring that venerable congregation; and

4           WHEREAS, Beginning in the late 1800s, circuit-riding Baptist  
5 preachers held monthly religious services for residents in the  
6 area, first under the trees and later in the local schoolhouse,  
7 which also functioned as a community fellowship center; eventually,  
8 a second school was built to accommodate a growing population, and  
9 that structure is used as the church's sanctuary to this day; and

10           WHEREAS, Brother Hollis and Addie Newman officially  
11 reorganized Smith Point Baptist Church in 1948 with the assistance  
12 of Mark and Richard "Dick" Whittington; the Reverend L. J. Hand  
13 served as the congregation's first pastor; in 2007, the name was  
14 changed to Smith Point Community Church to reflect the church's  
15 status as the only religious institution in the area; the Reverend  
16 Michael K. Graves currently leads the bilingual congregation, which  
17 worships in both English and Spanish; and

18           WHEREAS, For more than 100 years, Smith Point Community  
19 Church has been a source of inspiration and guidance to area  
20 residents, and this recognition from the Texas Historical  
21 Commission is a fitting tribute to the steadfastness of its members  
22 and to the significant role the church has played in building a  
23 strong and caring community; now, therefore, be it

24           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas

H.R. No. 660

1 Legislature hereby commemorate the dedication of an Official Texas  
2 Historical Marker at Smith Point Community Church and extend to the  
3 church's clergy, congregation, and guests sincere best wishes for a  
4 meaningful and memorable event; and, be it further

5       RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
6 prepared for the church as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
7 House of Representatives.

Faircloth

H.R. No. 660

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 660 was adopted by the House on March 9, 2017, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House