

By: Faircloth

H.R. No. 660

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.