

By: Giddings

H.R. No. 668

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The Texas Legislative Black Caucus is hosting the  
2 African American Legislative Summit in Austin from February 26 to  
3 28, 2017; and

4           WHEREAS, Founded in 1973, the Texas Legislative Black Caucus  
5 is dedicated to addressing the issues that confront African  
6 Americans across the state; it has grown from an initial group of 8  
7 members to a current membership of 19 legislators, including 17  
8 from the Texas House of Representatives and 2 from the Texas Senate;  
9 in addition to the biennial African American Legislative Summit,  
10 caucus initiatives include the TLBC Scholarship Program benefiting  
11 promising young people; and

12           WHEREAS, The theme for the 2017 summit is "Transforming  
13 Struggle into Progress"; the event encompasses a number of panel  
14 discussions on such topics as health care, education, economic  
15 development, and youth and young adult concerns; and

16           WHEREAS, At the Chair's Award Gala, the caucus is honoring  
17 Roland Parrish, philanthropist and chief executive officer of  
18 Parrish McDonald's Restaurants, which owns some two dozen  
19 franchises in North Texas; the summit also features two  
20 distinguished keynote speakers, both native Texans; Ruth Simmons  
21 will address the Scholarship Banquet, sharing her insights as the  
22 former president of Smith College and Brown University and the  
23 first African American to head an Ivy League institution; the  
24 keynote speaker for the Community Awards Breakfast is Rushion

1 McDonald, the entertainment industry titan best known for shaping  
2 and sustaining performer Steve Harvey's multimedia career; and

3 WHEREAS, The African American Legislative Summit provides an  
4 outstanding opportunity for Texans to meet policy makers, analyze  
5 the challenges of contemporary society, and unite their efforts in  
6 order to build a brighter future for their fellow citizens; now,  
7 therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
9 Legislature hereby commemorate the 2017 African American  
10 Legislative Summit and extend to all those participating sincere  
11 best wishes for an informative, productive, and enjoyable event.