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By:  Johnson of Harris H.R. No. 780

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The 102nd birthday of an esteemed Texan is indeed cause for celebration, and Ira B. Scott Sr. of Houston is marking this significant occasion in his life on March 25, 2019; and

WHEREAS, A native of Willis, Ira Scott was born in 1917; he attended public schools in his hometown before transferring to Port Arthur Lincoln High School because it offered a full 12 grades of instruction; he completed his bachelor's degree in education at Huston-Tillotson University and taught in a small community near Shreveport, Louisiana; subsequently, he worked for the YMCA in New Orleans; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Scott married the former Evelyn Rhoda Landix, and the couple became the proud parents of three sons, Ira, Carl, and Vernon; they lived in Conroe while Mr. Scott taught at Booker T. Washington School, and he founded the community's first Boy Scout troop for African Americans; after he joined the faculty of Phillis Wheatley High, the family relocated to Houston; Wheatley moved to a new facility the following year, but Mr. Scott remained at the location as it became E. O. Smith Junior High; he rose to become principal of the campus and served there for 35 years until his retirement; for more than a quarter-century, he was a board member of the credit union for Houston teachers; he also served as president of the Houston Retired Teachers Association; and

WHEREAS, Deeply committed to his community, Mr. Scott established the first Boy Scout troop in the Fifth Ward with the help of fellow educators and parents; he was a trustee of Huston-Tillotson University and served as president of the alumni organization, and he has given generously of his time and talents to the Prince Hall Masons; one of the longest-tenured members of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, he has been active in the Nu Phi Chapter for over seven decades, and he was chapter basileus and a chaplain of the Ninth District; moreover, he has been a valued member of Trinity United Methodist Church for more than 65 years, and he has served in the choir and men's ministry; and

WHEREAS, A distinguished educator and engaged citizen, Ira Scott has earned the deep admiration of innumerable people, and he may reflect with great satisfaction on a long lifetime of achievement; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby congratulate Ira B. Scott Sr. on the joyous occasion of his 102nd birthday and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued happiness; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for Mr. Scott as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.