

By: Reynolds

H.R. No. 154

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Many civic-minded Texans are gathering in Austin on
2 February 5, 2019, in celebration of Urban Leagues of Greater Texas
3 Day at the State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, In the early 20th century, African Americans
5 migrating to northern cities soon discovered that they had not
6 escaped racial discrimination; good jobs were denied them, and most
7 were forced to live in substandard housing; the National Urban
8 League formed in 1911 to address those issues, and the organization
9 trained African American social workers to help migrant families
10 attain educational and employment opportunities; and

11 WHEREAS, By the end of World War I, the league had established
12 operations in 30 cities and had evolved to take on new challenges;
13 in the 1930s, it advocated powerfully for the inclusion of African
14 Americans in the New Deal and fought to desegregate labor unions;
15 the Urban League later played a major role in the Civil Rights Era,
16 and it hosted Martin Luther King Jr., A. Philip Randolph, and other
17 leaders at planning meetings for the March on Washington; and

18 WHEREAS, The league continued to expand its mission, and in
19 the 1970s, it adopted a broader focus on such contemporary problems
20 as environmental protection and energy conservation, as well as on
21 the many aspects of poverty; today, members of the league continue
22 to work tirelessly in behalf of economic empowerment, educational
23 opportunity, and the guarantee of civil rights; and

24 WHEREAS, For more than a century, Urban League members have

H.R. No. 154

1 dedicated themselves to securing social and economic justice for
2 all, and the organization continues to play a vital role in
3 communities across our state and nation; now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
5 Legislature hereby recognize February 5, 2019, as Urban Leagues of
6 Greater Texas Day at the State Capitol and extend to participants
7 sincere best wishes for a meaningful and memorable visit to Austin.