

By: Bell of Kaufman

H.R. No. 256

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Public libraries contribute immeasurably to the  
2 quality of life in their community, and in 2020 the Henderson County  
3 Clint W. Murchison Memorial Library celebrated 100 years of  
4 exemplary service; and

5 WHEREAS, The women of the Current Literature Club in  
6 Henderson County resolved to create a public library for their  
7 community in 1917, and on March 31, 1920, the library was opened on  
8 the second floor of the courthouse in Athens; it was dedicated to  
9 the memory of those who had lost their lives in World War I; and

10 WHEREAS, With the growth of the community, the Henderson  
11 County Women's club petitioned the U.S. Congress in the 1930s to  
12 have members of the National Youth Administration construct a new  
13 facility, and from 1939 to 1940, seven young NYA workers built the  
14 Henderson County Women's Building and Memorial Library, which was  
15 dedicated on September 6, 1940; and

16 WHEREAS, In 1966, the community began to raise money to move  
17 the library to the former Athens Post Office building; Clint W.  
18 Murchison Jr. and John Dabney Murchison donated \$35,000 in honor of  
19 their father, Clint W. Murchison Sr., and the new library was  
20 dedicated in his name on October 19, 1972; and

21 WHEREAS, The library has continued to grow and thrive; in  
22 2015, it was accredited by the Texas State Library and Archives  
23 Commission, and in 2020, the library celebrated its centennial by  
24 installing a handsome new stained glass transom over the front door

1 and initiating a new capital campaign to raise funds for its  
2 continued support; and

3 WHEREAS, For 100 years, the Henderson County Library has been  
4 a source of enlightenment, entertainment, and inspiration for  
5 countless residents, and it is a privilege to join in celebrating  
6 its long history and bright future as a vital community resource;  
7 now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas  
9 Legislature hereby commemorate the 100th anniversary of the  
10 Henderson County Clint W. Murchison Memorial Library and extend to  
11 all those associated with the library sincere best wishes for the  
12 future; and, be it further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
14 prepared for the library as an expression of high regard by the  
15 Texas House of Representatives.