

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Members of the Rejebian Book Club of Plano are  
2 celebrating the 75th anniversary of their group in 2021; and

3 WHEREAS, In 1936, Dallas resident Ermance Rejebian attended a  
4 presentation on the historical novel *The Forty Days of Musa Dagh*; as  
5 an Armenian-American immigrant, she took great exception to the  
6 speaker's lack of knowledge about the events in the book; she went  
7 on to deliver her own enthralling review of the book for the Dallas  
8 Story League, and she was soon much in demand at literary events and  
9 women's club meetings; and

10 WHEREAS, Mrs. Rejebian was encouraged to start her own book  
11 club, and thanks to her erudition and stirring oratory,  
12 performances drew large audiences, requiring a waiting list and  
13 leading to the establishment of other Rejebian Book Clubs; the  
14 Plano group was founded in 1946 by several local women who had been  
15 driving all the way to Dallas to enjoy Mrs. Rejebian's reviews; and

16 WHEREAS, Eventually, some 40 Rejebian Book Clubs flourished  
17 in Oklahoma and Louisiana, as well as Texas; for well over three  
18 decades, Mrs. Rejebian gave more than 40 hour-long reviews in a  
19 typical month, from memory; in addition, her reviews were featured  
20 on radio station WFAA, and for seven years, she served as a weekly  
21 news commentator; she also published two autobiographical books, a  
22 volume of letters, and Bible studies; in 1951, *Time* magazine named  
23 her one of the seven most influential women in the Southwest; she  
24 was the inaugural recipient of the Americanism Medal, conferred by

1 the Jane Douglas Chapter of the Daughters of the American  
2 Revolution to honor her many contributions as a naturalized  
3 citizen; and

4 WHEREAS, Ermance Rejebian died in 1989, but her legacy lives  
5 on through a number of her namesake clubs, and the continued  
6 existence of the Plano group is a tribute to the enduring dedication  
7 of the club's members, both past and present; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas  
9 Legislature hereby commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Rejebian  
10 Book Club of Plano and extend to the members sincere best wishes for  
11 the future; and, be it further

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

Leach

H.R. No. 552

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 552 was adopted by the House on April 16, 2021, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House