

By: Zwiener

H.R. No. 29

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The Texas State University community is mourning the  
2 loss of Dr. Elvin Holt, professor emeritus of English, who passed  
3 away on September 18, 2023, at the age of 77; and

4           WHEREAS, The son of Naomi Holt Stredic and Aaron Stredic Sr.,  
5 Elvin Holt was born in Bay City on September 25, 1945; he earned a  
6 bachelor's degree magna cum laude from Prairie View A&M University,  
7 a master's degree from Texas State, and a doctoral degree from the  
8 University of Kentucky; after joining the Texas State faculty in  
9 1983, he became the first tenured Black professor in the Department  
10 of English; his research and writing focused on African and African  
11 American literature, cultural studies, and folklore; while  
12 instilling appreciation for once-undervalued works, he both  
13 challenged and nurtured his students, winning multiple teaching  
14 awards; he received three fellowships from the National Endowment  
15 for the Humanities, and he was named the 1989 Professor of the Year  
16 by the Association of Black Students; and

17           WHEREAS, Dr. Holt was coeditor of *Acting Up and Getting Down:*  
18 *Plays by African American Texans* and coauthor of *Stages of Struggle*  
19 *and Celebration: A Production History of Black Theatre in Texas*;  
20 during his 37-year career, he developed and taught Honors College  
21 courses and served the university on numerous committees; he also  
22 shared his vast knowledge of San Marcos's Black community as a  
23 member of such local organizations as the Heritage Association of  
24 San Marcos, the San Marcos Historic Preservation Commission, the

1 Hays County Historical Commission, and the LBJ MLK Crossroads  
2 Memorial committee; he was a founding member and the  
3 longest-serving president of the Calaboose African American  
4 History Museum; following his retirement from academia in 2020, he  
5 remained active as an archivist; both a museum scholarship and a  
6 street on the TXST Round Rock campus were named in his honor; and

7 WHEREAS, A trailblazing educator and inspiring mentor, Elvin  
8 Holt will be deeply missed, but his legacy will continue to resonate  
9 for years to come; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas  
11 Legislature, 4th Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of  
12 Dr. Elvin Holt and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his  
13 family: to his sisters, Flora Jackson, Nelda Stredic Jackson, and  
14 Vivian Stredic; to his brother, Errol Stredic; and to his other  
15 relatives and many friends; and, be it further

16 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
17 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
18 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Dr. Elvin  
19 Holt.