

By: Reynolds

H.R. No. 376

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The fourth annual Texas HBCU Conference Series,
2 *Democracy Schools*, is taking place at Huston-Tillotson University
3 in Austin on April 4 and 5, 2025; and

4 WHEREAS, Established at Huston-Tillotson in 2022, the
5 conference series emerged from the efforts of a campuswide
6 leadership development and civic engagement initiative, Public
7 Leadership in Faith and Social Justice Traditions; students in the
8 program organized intentional small group discussions, drawing
9 inspiration from a century of grass roots activism; the Freedom
10 Schools of the civil rights era inform the concept of Democracy
11 Schools as a framework to explore civic capacity building and
12 community institutions over time; and

13 WHEREAS, The conference brings together students, faculty,
14 and staff from the state's Historically Black Colleges and
15 Universities, as well as interested community partners; scholars
16 and professionals explore a cultural view of democracy and
17 citizenship with perspectives from a broad range of disciplines and
18 fields, including literature, science, media, humanities, and the
19 arts; and

20 WHEREAS, In its fourth year, the conference's theme is the
21 civic power and legacy of HBCUs and Black educational history and
22 practice; presenters will examine the collective ability of civil
23 society groups, organizations, and institutions to strengthen and
24 renew democracy; and

1 WHEREAS, The conference series highlights the vital role
2 HBCUs have long played in developing strong, meaningful citizenship
3 that contributes to the advancement of democracy in our state and
4 nation; now, therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas
6 Legislature hereby recognize April 4, 2025, as Texas HBCU Day and
7 extend to all those participating in the Texas HBCU Conference
8 Series sincere best wishes for a meaningful and productive event.