

By: Bhojani

H.R. No. 404

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Members of the Zoroastrian faith who reside in Texas  
2 are gathering in Austin on March 5, 2025, to celebrate Zoroastrian  
3 Day at the State Capitol; and

4           WHEREAS, Founded by the prophet Zarathushtra in ancient Iran  
5 more than 3,000 years ago, Zoroastrianism is one of the world's  
6 oldest monotheistic religions; Zoroastrianism flourished as the  
7 imperial religion of three Persian empires, the Achaemenid,  
8 Parthian, and Sasanian, during which times it was the dominant  
9 religion of an area spanning from Turkey to China; and

10           WHEREAS, Today, there are an estimated 100,000 to 200,000  
11 Zoroastrians worldwide; embracing the sacred text Avesta as the  
12 foundation of their faith, they are defined by their belief in  
13 truth, righteousness, charity, beneficence, respect and care for  
14 the environment, and the triumph of good over evil, and they have  
15 played a long-standing role in fostering interfaith dialogue and  
16 understanding; and

17           WHEREAS, The Zoroastrian community in North America, which  
18 numbers over 25,000 followers, includes those who arrived from the  
19 Indian subcontinent, who are known as Parsis, and those who came  
20 from Iran in search of religious freedom; more than 1,100  
21 Zoroastrians reside in Texas, with the largest populations being  
22 found in the Greater Houston area and North Texas; adherents in the  
23 state represent a wide range of professions, and they include small  
24 business owners and well-respected community members; and

1           WHEREAS, Encompassing a rich and diverse religious  
2 tradition, Zoroastrianism inspires its worshippers to lead  
3 virtuous lives through their words and deeds, and the Lone Star  
4 State is enriched and strengthened by the many contributions of  
5 members of this faith who call our state home; now, therefore, be it

6           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas  
7 Legislature hereby recognize March 5, 2025, as Zoroastrian Day at  
8 the State Capitol and extend a warm welcome to those who are  
9 visiting Austin in observance of this occasion.