

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Residents of the Houston area are gathering at
2 Southside Place Park, also known as Fire Truck Park, on April 12,
3 2025, for the dedication of an Official Texas Historical Marker
4 from the Texas Historical Commission; and

5 WHEREAS, The land that would later become Southside Place
6 Park was once part of the Harris County Poor Farm, a facility for
7 the indigent; in 1924, Edward Lillo Crain purchased the southern
8 tract of the site, as well as frontage along Bellaire Boulevard, for
9 a new suburban neighborhood named Southside Place; he set aside
10 eight lots and built out the park first, and early amenities
11 included a swimming pool, a wading pool, a bathhouse, a tennis
12 court, and play equipment, all of which distinguished the
13 development from others in the Houston area; the Southside Place
14 Park Association operated the space for 80 years, and ownership was
15 later transferred to the City of Southside Place; and

16 WHEREAS, An integral part of the history of the park, the
17 city's first fire truck was retired in 1970 and repurposed into a
18 play structure, serving as a beloved landmark at the park entrance
19 for 42 years; in 2011, the Southside Place Park Board and the
20 Southside Fire Truck Park Fund determined it was time for a complete
21 remodel of the property, and renovations were unveiled the
22 following year; the pool was replaced by Water Technology Inc.,
23 which constructed six lap lanes, a separated diving area with a drop
24 slide, and a shallow-water teaching area; today, the park offers

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1 many programs as well as rentals of the clubhouse, pavilion, and
2 pool for local residents; and

3 WHEREAS, For a century, Southside Place Park has served as a
4 sanctuary for relaxation and recreation, and the placement of a
5 marker will allow future visitors to further appreciate the rich
6 heritage of the community; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas
8 Legislature hereby commemorate the dedication of an Official Texas
9 Historical Marker for Southside Place Park and commend all those
10 involved in securing this designation for their efforts; and, be it
11 further

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

Johnson

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 768 was adopted by the House on April 17, 2025, by the following vote: Yeas 132, Nays 8, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House