

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 655

Recognizing the historical contributions and value of Houston’s 7 major
Black publications.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 18, 2023

Mr. GREEN of Texas submitted the following resolution; which was referred
to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the historical contributions and value of
Houston’s 7 major Black publications.

Whereas this resolution may be cited as the “Original Resolution Honoring Houston’s Seven Major Black Newspapers”;

Whereas the City of Houston takes pride in its rich, vibrant cultural and historical tapestry, the depth and breadth of which is largely due to the contributions of its diverse communities;

Whereas historically Black publications have played a critical role in providing a platform for the voiceless, and shaping public discourse for generations;

Whereas Houston has been the birthplace and home of 7 pre-eminent Black publications, including the Houston In-

former, Houston Defender, Forward Times, Houston Sun, Houston Style, African American News and Issues, and D-MARS.com;

Whereas the Houston Informer was established in 1919 to provide African Americans with a powerful voice for democracy, enhanced education, equality, and improved infrastructure, becoming an invaluable part of the fiber and fabric of Houston;

Whereas the Houston Defender, since its inception in 1930, has served as a relentless sentinel, focusing on socio-economic issues and defending the rights and interests of the African-American community, and contributing to the city's vibrant tapestry of diversity;

Whereas the Forward Times, a cornerstone of the community and self-publication since 1960, has made significant contributions to the elevation of African-American voices, serving as a beacon for transformative societal change;

Whereas the Houston Sun, initiated in 1983, has illuminated the triumphs, challenges, and experiences of the African-American community, being a voice for its constituents;

Whereas the Houston Style commits itself to providing the public with a comprehensive representation of the issues the African-American community in Houston cares about, both in popular culture and the news;

Whereas African American News and Issues, established in 1996, has focused on addressing real-time news directly impacting the African-American community across Texas and encouraging healthy dialogue on key issues;

Whereas D-MARS.com, since its founding in 2001, has devoted itself to promote positive, informative, and inspira-

tional stories that transform and uplift the African-American community; and

Whereas the contributions of these Black publications have not only been instrumental in chronicling the past, but they continue to inspire, educate, and empower present and future generations: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) commends and recognizes the invaluable
3 work and enduring legacy of these 7 Black publica-
4 tions in Houston, their dedication to journalism,
5 their empowerment of the African-American commu-
6 nity, and their overall enrichment of Houston’s cul-
7 tural and historical tapestry;

8 (2) acknowledges the vital role played by these
9 institutions in elevating voices and shaping nar-
10 ratives within the African-American community and
11 society at large, to ensure that diversity, inclusivity,
12 and justice become accessible to all in the demo-
13 cratic society of the United States; and

14 (3) expresses sincere gratitude to the Houston
15 Informer, Houston Defender, Forward Times, Hous-
16 ton Sun, Houston Style, African American News
17 and Issues, and D-MARS.com for their unwavering
18 commitment to the truth, community service, and

- 1 their remarkable contributions to the history and vi-
- 2 tality of the City of Houston.

