

By: Frullo

H.R. No. 452

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Citizens of Lubbock are visiting Austin on March 31,
2 2021, to pay tribute to their city's rich heritage and to celebrate
3 Lubbock Day at the State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, The Lubbock area is one of the oldest inhabited
5 places in Texas; archaeologists have discovered evidence of some
6 12,000 years of continuous habitation at the Lubbock Lake Landmark
7 site, a national historic and state archaeological preserve; and

8 WHEREAS, The City of Lubbock was incorporated on March 16,
9 1909; railroads stimulated the city's growth as a trade center, but
10 residents also wanted the benefits of an institution of higher
11 learning; when legislation creating Texas Technological College
12 was passed in 1923, the site selection committee was impressed by
13 the enthusiasm and hospitality of the city's residents and chose
14 Lubbock for the college's location; and

15 WHEREAS, Today, the city and its surrounding area have a
16 population of more than 300,000 people, and it is home to the Texas
17 Tech University System and its flagship institution, Texas Tech
18 University, a school well deserving of its Tier One status; and

19 WHEREAS, The Texas Tech Health Sciences Center attracts
20 students from around the world; in 2016, it was named the number one
21 graduate school by SR Education Group, and it is consistently
22 ranked among the top universities in the nation by *U.S. News & World*
23 *Report*; and

24 WHEREAS, Lubbock's three universities and one public

1 community college annually draw more than 50,000 students to the
2 area and refresh the local economy with thousands of new graduates
3 each year, creating a community where more than 35 percent of
4 residents over the age of 25 hold a college degree or higher; and

5 WHEREAS, Texas Tech's athletic programs have achieved
6 historic successes; the men's basketball team reached its first
7 Elite Eight in 2018, followed by a Final Four appearance in 2019,
8 and the baseball team has appeared four times in the College World
9 Series in the past seven years, while the track and field team has
10 won indoor and outdoor Big 12 championships; in addition, the
11 women's basketball team at Lubbock Christian University won a
12 national championship in 2016; and

13 WHEREAS, Lubbock's metropolitan area labor force is vibrant,
14 and the cost of doing business continues to rank among the lowest in
15 the nation because of low rates for electric and natural gas
16 utilities, as well as affordable land, wage rates, and cost of
17 living; and

18 WHEREAS, Lubbock is consistently recognized by national
19 organizations for its business-friendly atmosphere, and it has been
20 named the number one city for professional women, ranked in the top
21 20 for young entrepreneurs to start a business, and named seventh in
22 the 2014 *Forbes* list of "Opportunity Cities" based on the city's low
23 cost of living, its cultural offerings, and the strength of its
24 business community; and

25 WHEREAS, Lubbock enjoys a diverse economy that draws its
26 strength from agribusiness, manufacturing, and commerce, as well as
27 from educational and health care services, and the city boasts the

1 largest medical infrastructure to be found between Dallas and
2 Phoenix; with the growth of cotton culture on the High Plains,
3 Lubbock has become one of the world's primary centers for the
4 processing of cottonseed and hybrid grain sorghum seed; and

5 WHEREAS, The Lubbock region also features several major,
6 award-winning wineries and vineyards, and the area north of Lubbock
7 is known for its cattle production; and

8 WHEREAS, Lubbock offers a wealth of cultural institutions and
9 recreational opportunities, including the Lubbock Symphony
10 Orchestra, the Lubbock Civic Ballet, the Museum and Planetarium and
11 other offerings at Texas Tech University, and the Silent Wings
12 Museum; a new, state-of-the-art performing arts center is under
13 construction and is to be named after local legend and Rock 'n' Roll
14 Hall of Fame inductee Buddy Holly; Lubbock County voters have also
15 approved the construction of the new Lubbock County Expo Center to
16 serve as a multipurpose event center for the region; and

17 WHEREAS, Through meticulously planned infrastructure, city
18 leaders have created a low-traffic community with the number one
19 ranked commute in the state and more neighborhood parks per capita
20 than any other city in Texas; and

21 WHEREAS, Those wanting a glimpse of the frontier can find it
22 in the restored structures at the Ranching Heritage Center, a
23 15-acre site tracing the evolution of ranch architecture and the
24 history of the cattle industry; the region's history is also
25 celebrated at the Bayer Museum of Agriculture; and

26 WHEREAS, Many talented musicians have come from the Lubbock
27 area; they include Buddy Holly, Roy Orbison, the Maines family,

1 Virgil Johnson and the Velvets, Waylon Jennings, Tanya Tucker, Joe
2 Ely, Jimmie Dale Gilmore, Butch Hancock, Pat Green, and Josh
3 Abbott; their rich and diverse contributions have earned Lubbock
4 and West Texas recognition as the "Music Crossroads of Texas"; and

5 WHEREAS, Lubbock's thriving business community is
6 represented by the largest business federation on the Texas South
7 Plains, the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce, which grows and guards the
8 prosperity of the Lubbock area; and

9 WHEREAS, Early major achievements propelled by the chamber
10 during more than a century of service include recruiting
11 out-of-state farmers to populate the area and make productive the
12 fertile soils of the Llano Estacado, working to bring the railroad
13 to Lubbock, founding the South Plains Fair, and drafting and
14 delivering the application to the Texas Capitol that would result
15 in establishing Texas Technological College, which today thrives as
16 the heart of the Texas Tech University System; and

17 WHEREAS, The Lubbock Chamber of Commerce was also
18 instrumental in establishing Lubbock Preston Smith International
19 Airport, Reese Air Force Base, and the area's outstanding
20 transportation infrastructure, and it recently introduced an
21 Association Health Plan for its small-business members in 34 West
22 Texas counties and is the first chamber in Texas to launch such a
23 plan; and

24 WHEREAS, The citizens of Lubbock have truly kept faith with
25 the founders of their West Texas community; renowned for their
26 friendliness and warmth as well as their hardiness and
27 determination, they have helped to build a vital urban center that

1 serves not only a large part of West Texas but also eastern New
2 Mexico; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
4 Legislature hereby recognize March 31, 2021, as Lubbock Day at the
5 State Capitol and extend to the members of the visiting delegation
6 and all their fellow citizens sincere appreciation for the bright
7 luster they add to the Lone Star State.