

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, On February 20 and 21, 2023, proud residents of the
2 Texas Panhandle are visiting Austin for Panhandle Days at the State
3 Capitol, a celebration of the rich heritage of this important
4 region of the Lone Star State; and

5 WHEREAS, The striking landscape of the Panhandle ranges from
6 the vast grasslands and open sky of the Llano Estacado to the
7 breathtaking vistas of Palo Duro Canyon and the Caprock Escarpment
8 to the gently undulating rolling plains of the southeast; the
9 ancient Paleo-Indians once lived here, as did members of later
10 indigenous cultures, and in 1541, when the explorer Francisco
11 Vázquez de Coronado passed through the area, he found a rich
12 rangeland, thick with buffalo and wildlife; and

13 WHEREAS, The Panhandle's distinctive shape results from
14 boundaries that were established by the Compromise of 1850, and in
15 the decades after the Civil War, pioneering cattlemen such as
16 Charles Goodnight, James Adair, and Thomas Sherman Bugbee
17 established enormous ranching empires; the arrival of the railroad
18 in the late 1880s hastened the development of wheat and cotton
19 farming, and the discovery of oil and natural gas in the 1920s
20 further boosted and diversified the region's economy; and

21 WHEREAS, Today, the Panhandle continues to prosper from
22 farming and from the oil, gas, and wind industries, and
23 cattle-raising remains a multibillion-dollar business, with more
24 feedlots in the region than anywhere else in the nation; Amarillo,

1 the Panhandle's largest city, is home to such large employers as
2 Xcel Energy, Tyson Foods, Bell Helicopter, Pantex, and several
3 health care systems, as well as to the Texas Cattle Feeders
4 Association and the Minor League Baseball team, the Amarillo Sod
5 Poodles; Pampa, the second-largest city, is a thriving center for
6 petroleum and livestock, and Dalhart boasts the annual XIT Rodeo
7 and Reunion and the Hilmar Cheese Company; Sunray is home to a
8 Valero refinery, while Dumas and Hereford are known for cattle
9 feeding and beef processing enterprises; the town of Panhandle
10 serves as the county seat of Carson County and is home to a National
11 Blue Ribbon School, Panhandle Elementary School, and Borger is the
12 site of a Phillips 66 refinery and a Nutrien nitrogen plant; and

13 WHEREAS, The Texas Panhandle is home to several renowned
14 schools from K-12 grade schools to higher education institutions;
15 six Texas Panhandle schools, including Happy High School, Vega
16 Elementary School, Claude School, Gruver Elementary School, and
17 Gruver Junior High School, were named top schools in the country and
18 awarded the prestigious National Blue Ribbon School designation in
19 2022; the higher educational needs of the Panhandle's residents are
20 served by the nationally recognized Texas Tech University Health
21 Sciences Center and West Texas A&M University, as well as Amarillo
22 College, Frank Phillips College, and Clarendon College; and

23 WHEREAS, The Panhandle features a variety of notable cultural
24 and recreational attractions; Amarillo supports the Lone Star
25 Ballet and the Amarillo Symphony, and the city's many museums
26 include the American Quarter Horse Hall of Fame and Museum, the Don
27 Harrington Discovery Center, the Texas Air and Space Museum, the

1 Amarillo Railroad Museum, the Amarillo Museum of Art, and the
2 Kwahadi Museum of the American Indian; the Panhandle-Plains
3 Historical Museum in Canyon houses more than two million artifacts
4 that evoke the heritage of the region, while Palo Duro Canyon State
5 Park hosts the outdoor musical drama *Texas*, which portrays the
6 struggles and triumphs of area settlers in the 19th century; Dumas
7 draws visitors from across the region for its Dogie Days every June,
8 and Stratford, the county seat of Sherman County, hosts its popular
9 Jamboree each July; and

10 WHEREAS, The people of the Texas Panhandle are blessed to
11 live in a region of abundant natural resources and windswept
12 beauty, and they may indeed take great pride in the important
13 contributions they have made and continue to make to the history,
14 culture, and prosperity of Texas; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
16 Legislature hereby recognize February 20 and 21, 2023, as Panhandle
17 Days at the State Capitol and extend to those attending the
18 celebration sincere best wishes for a memorable and meaningful
19 event.

Price
Smithee

Phelan	Guerra	Murr
Allen	Guillen	Neave Criado
Allison	Harless	Noble
Anchía	Harris of Anderson	Oliverson
Anderson	Harris of Williamson	Ordaz
Ashby	Harrison	Orr
Bailes	Hayes	Ortega
Bell of Kaufman	Hefner	Patterson
Bell of Montgomery	Hernandez	Paul
Bernal	Herrero	Perez
Bhojani	Hinojosa	Plesa
Bonnen	Holland	Price
Bowers	Howard	Ramos
Bryant	Hull	Raney
Buckley	Hunter	Raymond
Bucy	Isaac	Reynolds
Bumgarner	Jetton	Rogers
Burns	Johnson of Dallas	Romero, Jr.
Burrows	A. Johnson of Harris	Rose
Button	J. Johnson of Harris	Rosenthal
Cain	Jones of Dallas	Schaefer
Campos	Jones of Harris	Schatzline
Canales	Kacal	Schofield
Capriglione	King of Hemphill	Shaheen
Clardy	King of Uvalde	Sherman, Sr.
Cole	Kitzman	Shine
Collier	Klick	Slaton
Cook	Kuempel	Slawson
Cortez	Lalani	Smith
Craddick	Lambert	Smithee
Cunningham	Landgraf	Spiller
Darby	Leach	Stucky
Davis	Leo-Wilson	Swanson
Dean	Longoria	Talarico
DeAyala	Lopez of Bexar	Tepper
Dorazio	Lopez of Cameron	Thierry
Dutton	Lozano	Thimesch
Flores	Lujan	Thompson of Brazoria
Frank	Manuel	Thompson of Harris
Frazier	Martinez	Tinderholt
Gamez	Martinez Fischer	Toth
Garcia	Metcalf	Troxclair
Gates	Meyer	Turner
Gerdes	Meza	VanDeaver
Geren	Moody	Vasut
Gervin-Hawkins	Morales of Harris	Vo
Goldman	Morales of Maverick	Walle
González of Dallas	Morales Shaw	Wilson
González of El Paso	Morrison	Wu
Goodwin	Muñoz, Jr.	Zwiener

H.R. No. 246

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 246 was adopted by the House on February 21, 2023, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House