

By: Ashby

H.R. No. 412

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Members of the Texas Telephone Association are
2 gathering in Austin on February 28, 2023, to celebrate Texas Rural
3 Broadband Day at the State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, Founded in 1905, TTA represents the state's local
5 exchange telephone companies and relies heavily on the volunteer
6 efforts of its member officers and directors who provide voice and
7 data service to rural Texas; the association's 46 rural
8 telecommunications providers include telephone cooperatives, small
9 family-owned companies, and multistate operations; and

10 WHEREAS, Covering almost half of the Lone Star State's land
11 area and a large portion of the Texas-Mexico border, TTA member
12 companies serve some 1.4 million rural Texas households and 2,200
13 rural schools, colleges, government agencies, and other anchor
14 institutions; thousands of miles of fiber optic and wireline
15 facilities form the backbone of the rural Texas telecommunications
16 network, enabling voice and wireless calls, broadband, and a range
17 of additional advanced services; and

18 WHEREAS, TTA employs approximately 3,800 Texans in full-time
19 positions and creates thousands of jobs for contractors, materials
20 suppliers, and other rural Texas businesses; working tirelessly
21 during adversity, rural phone companies and their technicians have
22 helped ensure uninterrupted connections for rural Texans during the
23 challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic; moreover, during Winter Storm
24 Uri in 2021, technicians braved dangerous conditions, often

1 traveling long distances to power remote switches with generators
2 and to check on the well-being of customers; and

3 WHEREAS, For well over a century, TTA has played an important
4 role in keeping rural Texans connected, and it is indeed a pleasure
5 to join in recognizing the association for its myriad
6 contributions; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
8 Legislature hereby recognize February 28, 2023, as Texas Rural
9 Broadband Day at the State Capitol and extend to all those
10 associated with the Texas Telephone Association sincere best wishes
11 for continued success; and, be it further

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