

By: Leach

H.R. No. 805

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Residents from Collin County are gathering in Austin  
2 on March 28 and 29, 2023, to celebrate Collin County Days at the  
3 State Capitol; and

4           WHEREAS, Collin County is one of the largest and  
5 fastest-growing counties in the state; more than 90 percent of its  
6 workforce over the age of 25 hold a high school diploma and about  
7 half have earned at least a bachelor's degree; such highly skilled  
8 workers also make the county a leader in job growth; and

9           WHEREAS, With a population of 283,000, Plano is the largest  
10 city in the county and home to a number of iconic global  
11 corporations, including Toyota Motor North America, Liberty Mutual  
12 Insurance, JPMorgan Chase & Co., Boeing Global Services, NTT DATA,  
13 JCPenney, FedEx Office, Frito-Lay, and Capital One; in 2018, the  
14 city was recognized as the best place to live in America by  
15 AreaVibes, the best city to buy a house in America by Niche, and the  
16 best city for jobs in America by *Forbes*, while maintaining its  
17 status as one of the safest cities in America by WalletHub and among  
18 the top five best-performing cities in America by the Milken  
19 Institute; this thriving municipality boasts nationally recognized  
20 schools, award-winning parks, a lively historic downtown district,  
21 and multicultural neighborhoods that appeal equally to families,  
22 young singles, and retirees; its excellent restaurants, vibrant  
23 shopping districts, exciting entertainment venues, and active  
24 local arts scene all contribute to the city's high quality of life;

1 this year, the city is celebrating the 150th anniversary of its  
2 founding, which took place on June 2, 1873; and

3 WHEREAS, County seat and home of the McKinney National  
4 Airport, the city of McKinney hosts such major employers as the  
5 aerospace division of Raytheon Company, Encore Wire Corporation,  
6 Emerson Process Management, and Torchmark Corporation; recent  
7 relocations include PACCAR and Moss Construction, and the community  
8 continues to cultivate its own businesses, including Playful, a  
9 virtual reality gaming company; in recent years, Independent Bank  
10 also completed construction of its new headquarters; furthermore,  
11 the city's historic downtown encompasses more than 130 boutiques;  
12 this rapidly growing community currently has a population of more  
13 than 211,000, marking a significant increase over the last decade;  
14 the McKinney National Airport has maintained its status as an  
15 economic engine with recent expansions to its facilities, including  
16 a new state-of-the-art FBO terminal; and

17 WHEREAS, Allen is a dynamic and welcoming home to more than  
18 110,000 residents and has been ranked among the safest, most  
19 affordable, and most family-friendly cities nationwide, and the  
20 city continues to enhance the Texas workforce through the addition  
21 and expansion of such international companies as NETSCOUT, Boss  
22 Fight Entertainment, and CyrusOne; in 2017, the city was named the  
23 number two "Best Place to Live" and number one "Best Place to Live  
24 in the South" by *Money* magazine, and the city received the coveted  
25 National Recreation and Park Association Gold Medal Award in 2016  
26 for its creation and stewardship of more than 1,300 acres of  
27 parkland, 67 parks and facilities, and 78 miles of hike-and-bike

1 trails; moreover, its volunteer efforts were recognized with the  
2 2012, 2016, and 2022 Keep Texas Beautiful Governor's Community  
3 Achievement Award for efforts in environmental education,  
4 community beautification, and litter prevention; and

5       WHEREAS, Defining "Progress in Motion," Frisco is one of the  
6 fastest-growing cities in the country and the fastest-growing  
7 community over the past decade, according to the United States  
8 census bureau; it has maintained its quality of life amid rapid  
9 development, and the *Dallas Morning News* named Frisco among its top  
10 10 suburbs for schools, safety, families with children, young  
11 adults, empty nesters, and "Best Overall" neighborhoods; known for  
12 top-notch public safety services, the city received the highest  
13 rating for fire protection, and it enjoys one of the lowest crime  
14 rates, as well as low taxes; this once-small town is home to Collin  
15 College, Preston Ridge Campus, world-class venues, and seven  
16 professional sports organizations, namely the Frisco RoughRiders,  
17 Dallas Stars, FC Dallas, Texas Legends, Dallas Rattlers, Dallas  
18 Cowboys, and the PGA of America; active residents have access to 49  
19 parks, 86 miles of trails, and an athletic center featuring an  
20 outdoor water park; health care facilities include three hospitals,  
21 and the favorable business climate supports more than nine million  
22 square feet of retail and restaurants; among the cultural amenities  
23 are three museums and hundreds of public and private art  
24 installations displayed throughout Frisco's approximately  
25 70-square-mile area; recently, the University of North Texas opened  
26 a campus in Frisco, becoming the first four-year college in Collin  
27 County; and

1           WHEREAS, The city of Wylie, Wylie Independent School  
2 District, Wylie Chamber of Commerce, and Wylie Economic Development  
3 Corporation work in concert to build a strong community that  
4 strives to honor the past, embrace the present, and plan for the  
5 future, while valuing unity, relationships, and trust, as evidenced  
6 by its ranking as second among more than 2,000 cities across the  
7 nation on the 25 Best Places to Live for Families list by *Fortune*  
8 *Magazine*; known as "Wide Awake Wylie," the town of 62,000 residents  
9 fosters a spirit of cooperation and features a thriving business  
10 environment as well as outstanding schools; it is a place people  
11 treasure and proudly call home, set apart by its strong sense of  
12 community and long history; and

13           WHEREAS, The city of Richardson, which is known globally for  
14 its high-tech business leadership, is home to the Telecom Corridor  
15 area and was named the International Business Capital of North  
16 Texas by the 82nd Texas Legislature; Richardson is a major  
17 employment center, with companies including Blue Cross and Blue  
18 Shield of Texas, Fossil, RealPage, Fujitsu Network Communications,  
19 and Cisco Systems having headquarters in the city; other major  
20 employers include State Farm, Raytheon, UnitedHealthcare, Texas  
21 Instruments, and AT&T; Richardson offers a high quality of life, a  
22 diverse array of neighborhoods, and easy access to a multimodal  
23 transportation infrastructure; the city has repeatedly been  
24 recognized as one of the top places to live, work, and obtain an  
25 education by national and local media; in 2018, CBS News ranked  
26 Richardson the 16th-best city in the United States to live, and it  
27 finished ninth nationally among top cities for STEM workers by

1 Livability; Richardson is home to The University of Texas at  
2 Dallas, one of the fastest-growing universities in the state, and  
3 the city remains dedicated to continued improvement as well as to  
4 the principles of open government and two-way communication with  
5 residents; established on June 26, 1873, the city is celebrating  
6 its 150th birthday this year; and

7         WHEREAS, The city of Murphy, a diverse, historically  
8 significant residential community in southeastern Collin County,  
9 continues to create a distinctive ambience of homeowner pride and  
10 neighborhood vitality, and it has maintained its designation as a  
11 Top 10 Best Suburb by *D Magazine* since the inception of the ratings;  
12 Murphy's commitment to an enhanced quality of life is reflected in  
13 the number and level of excellence in its parks system, as well as  
14 its highly regarded year-round special events; the emerging  
15 business community offers a wide range of desirable retail and  
16 culinary options, and residents enjoy the safety and security of  
17 professionally managed public safety functions; and

18         WHEREAS, With approximately 36,000 residents, Prosper is  
19 currently experiencing a 13 percent annual growth rate; located  
20 where the northern edge of Dallas' Golden Corridor meets the  
21 booming U.S. 380 Corridor, the town is poised for continued  
22 commercial, office, retail, and residential development; Prosper  
23 is home to several top housing developers, including Blue Star  
24 Land, LandPlan Development, and the Tellus Group; over \$500 million  
25 in pediatric medical care facilities have been built in Prosper,  
26 such as Cook Children's Medical Center - Prosper and Children's  
27 Health Specialty Center; the city also established a comprehensive

1 Downtown Master Development Plan to promote the enhancement of  
2 existing businesses and the attraction of new ones; the Prosper  
3 Independent School District spans 58 square miles and serves more  
4 than 25,000 students, and thanks to its excellent arts, academic,  
5 and athletic programs as well as its highly qualified teachers, the  
6 district is a state leader in student growth; recognized as a Tree  
7 City USA and certified as a Scenic City silver-level community,  
8 Prosper has more than 634 acres of open spaces, recreational  
9 venues, and facilities for sports and fitness, as well as over 52  
10 miles of hike-and-bike trails; moreover, the town offers such  
11 community engagement programs as the New Resident Mixer, Prosper  
12 Citizens Academy, Citizens on Patrol, the Citizens Police and Fire  
13 Academies, and special events for all ages and interests; Prosper  
14 continues to live up to its name and motto as "A place where  
15 everyone matters"; and

16 WHEREAS, Having been a platinum-level Scenic City in Texas  
17 since 2011, Fairview has also been recognized as a Tree City USA  
18 community and earned a Growing Green Cities Award, and it is home to  
19 the first street in Texas to be illuminated by LED lighting; the  
20 town is a three-time recipient of the Texas Municipal League  
21 Municipal Excellence Award and on an annual basis continues to earn  
22 the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial  
23 Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association; the  
24 Fairview Economic Development Corporation was awarded a  
25 Certificate of Achievement for Economic Excellence by the Texas  
26 Economic Development Council in 2017, and the Texas Chapter of the  
27 American Planning Association honored Fairview with a Certificate

1 of Achievement for Planning Excellence in 2015, 2016, and 2017; in  
2 addition, the town's Veterans Park has been recognized with a  
3 Patriotic Achievement Award from the Military Order of the World  
4 Wars; Fairview also features two of the Top 25 Best School Districts  
5 in Texas as ranked by Niche and continues to be ranked as one of the  
6 safest and most desirable places to live in Texas; and

7       WHEREAS, With 78 square miles of land, Celina has the second-  
8 largest geographic footprint of any city in Collin County;  
9 strategic growth plans allow the city to manage new development  
10 along the Dallas North Tollway, Preston Road, and future Collin  
11 County Outer Loop corridors; Celina is one of the fastest-growing  
12 communities in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex, having issued 1,249  
13 single-family housing permits in 2018; the city's robust "Texas  
14 historic" downtown is filled with a number of unique shops,  
15 offices, and award-winning restaurants, including Tender  
16 Smokehouse, which was rated the number two best place to eat on  
17 Yelp; its school district was recognized for its academic  
18 achievements with a prestigious "A" rating, and the city has  
19 received numerous accolades for its outstanding budgeting and  
20 financial reporting; residents and visitors come together to enjoy  
21 a number of special events throughout the year, including Movie  
22 Nights on the Square, Oktoberfest, Splash & Blast, and Cajun Fest;  
23 Celina's natural rural beauty, coupled with its exquisite  
24 recreational fields and amenities, creates a welcoming, small  
25 country-feel culture; and

26       WHEREAS, Lucas was founded in 1888 and became incorporated as  
27 a city government on February 19, 1959; the city is currently home

1 to more than 9,000 residents, and in recent years, it has  
2 experienced significant growth spurred by its quality housing,  
3 large lot sizes, exceptional education systems, low crime rate, and  
4 animal-friendly neighborhoods; the community has maintained a  
5 peaceful, rural lifestyle, helping to sustain a high quality of  
6 life for its citizens; the city is pleased to offer 25 miles of  
7 trails along Lake Lavon for pedestrians and equestrian enthusiasts,  
8 and it continues to focus on wildlife habitat preservation, making  
9 it the perfect home for the Blackland Prairie Raptor Center; the  
10 city's many honors include the 2022 Governor's Community  
11 Achievement Award from Keep Texas Beautiful, the Community  
12 Partnership Award from the International City/County Management  
13 Association, and certification as a silver level Scenic City; each  
14 year, area residents enjoy taking part in a number of special  
15 events, such as Founders Day, Country Christmas, and an annual  
16 trail cleanup; and

17 WHEREAS, The citizens of Parker are proud to be living in  
18 *D Magazine's* number two suburb in the DFW Metroplex, and they also  
19 enjoy a low municipal tax rate; the residents number more than  
20 5,000, and they cherish their uniquely "country" lifestyle;  
21 characterized by its large lots and comfortable atmosphere, Parker  
22 is known to millions of television viewers as the home of the  
23 legendary Southfork Ranch from *Dallas*; and

24 WHEREAS, Boasting an area of 64 square miles, Anna is one of  
25 the fastest-growing cities in North Texas, with a population of  
26 more than 21,000, and it is expected to grow to 100,000 by 2050; the  
27 city serves as the northern gateway of Collin County, and it is



1 located along U.S. Highway 75, State Highway 5, and State Highway  
2 121; Anna's residents enjoy an excellent quality of life through  
3 numerous recreational opportunities, parks, trails, open spaces,  
4 and easy access to the DFW and Red River corridors; the city, Anna  
5 Independent School District, Anna Community Development  
6 Corporation, and the Greater Anna Chamber of Commerce often  
7 collaborate to maintain a hometown atmosphere as the area undergoes  
8 rapid urbanization, and Anna was ranked among the safest cities in  
9 Texas in 2021 by a SafeWise report; Collin McKinney, one of the  
10 5 drafters and 59 signers of the Texas Declaration of Independence,  
11 lived in Anna for a number of years; and

12 WHEREAS, Farmersville, located 15 miles east of McKinney,  
13 took its name from the primary occupation of its original  
14 residents; established in 1849 as a settlement on the  
15 Jefferson-McKinney Road and near the Republic of Texas National  
16 Road, the town was incorporated in 1873; agriculture kept pace as it  
17 became a trade center, and in the 1930s, Farmersville shipped over  
18 1,000 carloads of onions annually, earning the nickname "Onion  
19 Capital of North Texas"; today, the city is working to advance local  
20 industries and railroad projects, and it is home to a number of  
21 businesses; in addition, the Farmersville Independent School  
22 District and the Collin College Farmersville Campus help strengthen  
23 the city's workforce; Farmersville has a nationally recognized Main  
24 Street Program, with many historic downtown buildings, eateries,  
25 and shopping attractions; near the restored Onion Shed is the  
26 trailhead for the 130-mile Northeast Texas Trail, a beautiful site  
27 for walking, hiking, and bicycling; and

1           WHEREAS, Settled in the mid-1850s, the city of Lavon is  
2 nestled along the southeastern shore of Lake Lavon, and it is home  
3 to approximately 3,800 residents who enjoy the friendliness of the  
4 small-town atmosphere combined with the benefits of living near an  
5 exciting metro area; the city's growing parks and trail system,  
6 planned capital improvements, attraction of quality business  
7 development, growth opportunities, and commitment to service  
8 contribute to an outstanding quality of life; and

9           WHEREAS, The city of Melissa is one of the fastest-growing  
10 communities in Collin County, gaining roughly one new family per  
11 day; residents enjoy a friendly atmosphere and close access to a  
12 number of amenities, as well as more square feet per dollar for the  
13 price of homes; Melissa is beginning to grow commercially to  
14 provide its citizens with even more amenities; and

15           WHEREAS, Other communities add much to Collin County's  
16 allure; the growing community of Blue Ridge is committed to  
17 revitalizing its downtown by providing a small-town rural feel;  
18 with its beautiful rolling hills, open skies with magnificent  
19 sunrises and sunsets, and friendly residents, Blue Ridge has a  
20 quaint charm all of its own; Cattlemans Cafe, established in 1953  
21 and featured in *D Magazine* and on *Texas Country Reporter*, adds to  
22 the town's neighborly atmosphere with its outstanding chicken fried  
23 steak; known as the "Home of the Last Texas Prairie in Collin  
24 County," the drive to Blue Ridge is replete with scenic open spaces  
25 dotted with cattle and horses; and

26           WHEREAS, Located in the center of Collin County, the city of  
27 Princeton is a planned community that is currently working to

1 become a Smart City; the community was named the number one place  
2 for first-time home buyers in the DFW area by NerdWallet in 2016,  
3 and it was recognized as a Prime Designated U.S. Site by Trade and  
4 Industry Development in 2022; the city has continued to lead Collin  
5 County as one of its fastest-growing cities with an average 20  
6 percent growth rate since 2017, and it issued more than 1,076  
7 single-family permits in 2022; with its Certified Scenic City  
8 Designation and its new Municipal Center and 100-acre Municipal  
9 Park, Princeton has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to  
10 cultivating a small-town atmosphere by prioritizing the addition of  
11 new parks, trails, and open space, and it maintains a low crime rate  
12 by national standards; the city places emphasis on an open and  
13 transparent government, and it has been consistently recognized  
14 with the Government Finance Officers Association's Distinguished  
15 Budget Presentation Award and its Certificate for Excellence in  
16 Financial Reporting; the Princeton Independent School District  
17 earned an "A" rating from the state, and it is home to the CATE  
18 Center, which provides vocational training across numerous  
19 skill-based fields; moreover, the district participates in the Jump  
20 Start Program and offers students the opportunity to receive an  
21 associate's degree while attending high school; and

22       WHEREAS, Sachse is a vibrant, diverse, well-educated, and  
23 growing community that offers its residents a high quality of life  
24 while retaining its small-town charm; named as one of the safest  
25 cities in Texas, the community prides itself on providing its  
26 families with a safe place to live; with its prime location along  
27 the President George Bush Turnpike, Sachse has become a regionally

1 significant point of access for the fastest-growing city in eastern  
2 Collin County; it is the home of an increasingly large retail trade  
3 area that includes a growing mixed-used development called The  
4 Station; and

5       WHEREAS, Also contributing to the development of Collin  
6 County are the residents of Copeville, Lowry Crossing, Nevada, New  
7 Hope, Royse City, St. Paul, Westminster, and Weston, along with  
8 parts of Dallas and Garland, and these communities play an  
9 important part in the county's flourishing, diversified economy and  
10 its quality of life; and

11       WHEREAS, The citizens of this notable North Texas county are  
12 working to preserve the best of their past even as they look forward  
13 to a bright and promising future, and they are sure to figure  
14 prominently in the growth and prosperity of the Lone Star State in  
15 the years ahead; now, therefore, be it

16       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas  
17 Legislature hereby recognize March 28 and 29, 2023, as Collin  
18 County Days at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting  
19 delegation sincere best wishes for a meaningful and memorable stay  
20 in Austin.