

By: Slaton

H.R. No. 886

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Our nation's first president, George Washington,
2 delivered a moving proclamation on October 3, 1789, designating the
3 following 26th day of November as a day of thanksgiving; and

4 WHEREAS, In early America, Thanksgiving was a sporadic
5 observance at the local level, generally at harvest time; a member
6 of the House of Representatives, Elias Boudinot of Massachusetts,
7 proposed in 1789 that a general day of thanksgiving be held to thank
8 God for giving the American people the opportunity to protect their
9 hard-won freedom by establishing a Constitution; and

10 WHEREAS, A Congressional Joint Committee approved
11 Representative Boudinot's motion and informed President
12 Washington; he then proclaimed November 26 of that year as "a day of
13 public thanksgiving and prayer"; and

14 WHEREAS, President Washington opened his proclamation with
15 the words: "Whereas it is the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the
16 providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his
17 benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor"; and

18 WHEREAS, In addition, President Washington asked that
19 Americans unite in prayer for a government that is "a blessing to
20 all the People"; in furtherance of that noble goal, Texas elected
21 officials at all levels are encouraged to uphold the four
22 responsibilities that President Washington outlined, namely "to
23 acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be
24 grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and

1 favor"; now, therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
3 Legislature hereby commemorate President George Washington's
4 Thanksgiving Proclamation of October 3, 1789.