

By: Kitzman

H.R. No. 921

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Columbus are celebrating their
2 city's bicentennial with a year of events from July 2022 through May
3 2023; and

4 WHEREAS, Located south and west of a horseshoe bend in the
5 Colorado River, Columbus traces its origins to 1821, when members
6 of Stephen F. Austin's Old Three Hundred began settling at the
7 former site of Montezuma, a legendary Native American village; by
8 1823, a small community, known as Beeson's Ferry or Beeson's Ford,
9 had developed, and it was renamed Columbus in 1835; the town became
10 the seat of local government in 1822, and it was designated the
11 county seat when Colorado County was established in 1836; and

12 WHEREAS, Although Columbus was first incorporated in 1866,
13 its citizens voted to disincorporate during the early 1900s due to
14 violence and political conflict; nonetheless, the population in the
15 area continued to grow, and the town was reincorporated in 1927;
16 over the years, its economy has benefited from a number of
17 industries, including smithies, a German cigar factory, cottonseed
18 oil mills, cotton farms, cattle ranches, and gravel pits; after
19 World War II, the city began focusing on recreational activities,
20 such as tours of its many historic buildings and properties; and

21 WHEREAS, Today, Columbus is home to nearly 3,700 Texans;
22 residents and visitors alike enjoy exploring the town's various
23 museums, viewing the bluebonnets that blanket the countryside, and
24 boating along the Colorado River; the town also hosts a number of

1 popular events throughout the year, such as the Columbus Country
2 Market, the Magnolia Days Festival, and the Colorado County Fair;
3 in addition, Columbus is known as "the city of live oaks and live
4 folks" for its many live oak trees, which include the largest
5 *Quercus virginiana* live oak tree in the state; other points of pride
6 include the recognition of Columbus Community Hospital as a Top 20
7 Rural and Community Hospital in 2020 by the National Rural Health
8 Association and the dedication of historical markers at Keyser
9 Market and Potter's Western Store in 2022; and

10 WHEREAS, Celebrating their rich history as they work to build
11 an even brighter future, the people of Columbus are justifiably
12 proud of their community, and it is indeed a pleasure to honor their
13 contributions to the story of the Lone Star State on this milestone
14 occasion; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
16 Legislature hereby commemorate the 200th anniversary of Columbus
17 and extend to its citizens sincere best wishes for the future; and,
18 be it further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
20 prepared for the city as an expression of high regard by the Texas
21 House of Representatives.