

By: Clardy

H.R. No. 1057

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Residents of Panola County are gathering in Austin  
2 on April 12, 2023, to celebrate Panola County Day at the State  
3 Capitol; and

4           WHEREAS, Located in northeastern Texas and forming part of  
5 the state's border with Louisiana, Panola County covers more than  
6 800 square miles of forests and rolling plains and is traversed by  
7 the Sabine River; the Texas Legislature officially created Panola  
8 County on March 30, 1846, and two years later, voters chose Carthage  
9 as the county seat; and

10           WHEREAS, It is believed that Judge John Allison, a prominent  
11 civic leader, suggested the name Panola, which may be derived from  
12 the Cherokee word for cotton, *ponolo*; the area's rich soil was well  
13 suited to the crop, and cotton became the county's main  
14 agricultural product; today, Panola County enjoys a diversified  
15 economy, primarily based in oil and gas production, agriculture,  
16 food processing, and timber; the lush forests also make the county a  
17 popular destination for hiking, birding, and camping enthusiasts,  
18 while anglers enjoy the good fishing waters of Martin Creek Lake and  
19 Lake Murvaul; and

20           WHEREAS, Panola County's rich heritage is recognized by  
21 nearly 60 Texas Historical Commission markers; the county was the  
22 birthplace of several notable Texans, including Margie Elizabeth  
23 Neal, the first woman elected to serve in the Texas Senate, and  
24 country music stars Tex Ritter and Jim Reeves; a museum dedicated to

1 Mr. Ritter and a memorial devoted to Mr. Reeves are located in  
2 Carthage, as is the Texas Country Music Hall of Fame, which honors  
3 the legacies of both of these men, along with other country music  
4 legends from the state; and

5 WHEREAS, Named a National Main Street City in Texas, Carthage  
6 is also home to Panola College and the historic Esquire Theater,  
7 which hosts the Country Music Hayride live music show; other  
8 popular events taking place in the county seat include the Piney  
9 Woods Quilt Festival in April, the annual Classic Country Music  
10 Festival Weekend in August, and Potlatch, an art, food, and music  
11 festival that takes place in the fall; and

12 WHEREAS, The citizens of Panola County take great pride in  
13 their rich history as they work together to build an even brighter  
14 future, and it is indeed fitting to honor them for their unique  
15 contributions to the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas  
17 Legislature hereby recognize April 12, 2023, as Panola County Day  
18 at the State Capitol and extend a warm welcome to the visiting  
19 delegation.