

By: Kitzman

H.R. No. 1188

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Waller County are marking the
2 150th anniversary of their county's founding on May 5, 2023; and

3 WHEREAS, Encompassing 514 square miles of land in the lower
4 coastal plain of southeast Texas, Waller County combines rolling
5 timber in the north with coastal prairie in the south; when the
6 state legislature established the county in 1873, by carving out
7 portions of Austin and Grimes Counties, Hempstead was designated as
8 the seat of government; the creation of the Houston and Texas
9 Central Railway spurred the growth of the county during the early
10 years of its existence, and railway companies were involved in the
11 development of Hempstead as well as the town of Brookshire; and

12 WHEREAS, The county's economy was largely driven by cotton
13 production, before it pivoted with the discovery of oil in the
14 1930s; in more recent years, it has benefited from being at the
15 nexus of two major transportation corridors, with U.S. Route 290
16 leading from Austin to Houston and Interstate 10 connecting Houston
17 to San Antonio and El Paso; and

18 WHEREAS, Waller County boasts a diverse population of nearly
19 60,000 people, a number that has grown steadily since the mid-20th
20 century; the area offers citizens a small-town, rural way of life,
21 while still being within commuting distance of Houston; its natural
22 beauty is enhanced by the abundance of bluebonnets that bloom there
23 in the spring, and residents and visitors alike enjoy such annual
24 events as the Waller County Fair, the Hempstead Watermelon

1 Festival, and the Katy Rice Festival; and

2 WHEREAS, Celebrating their history as they work to build an
3 even brighter future, the people of Waller County may indeed take
4 great pride in the role their community continues to play in the
5 story of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
7 Legislature hereby commemorate the sesquicentennial of Waller
8 County and extend to the county's residents sincere best wishes for
9 the future.