

By: Spiller

H.R. No. 1313

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Proud residents of Lampasas are gathering in Austin  
2 on May 1, 2023, to celebrate Lampasas Day at the State Capitol and  
3 to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the community's founding;  
4 and

5           WHEREAS, In 1760, a mission and presidio were built just west  
6 of the site of modern-day Lampasas at a time when the area was under  
7 Spanish rule; during the Revolutionary War, Lampasas would figure  
8 into a pivotal chapter of American history when Isaac Cox, a  
9 Pennsylvanian and Spanish army veteran, and seven of his nephews  
10 delivered over 700 horses from the area to Major General Charles  
11 Lee, a high-ranking officer in the Continental Army under General  
12 George Washington; Lampasas County would go on to supply horses for  
13 the U.S. military's use in the Spanish-American War, World War I,  
14 and World War II as well; and

15           WHEREAS, In the early 1850s, Moses Hughes and his family were  
16 among the first Anglo settlers to arrive in the area; Mr. Hughes and  
17 his ailing wife, Hannah, came in search of mineral springs due to  
18 their rumored healing properties; news of Mrs. Hughes's reported  
19 cure drew others to the community, and the town's growth in  
20 population led the Texas Legislature to declare Lampasas, formerly  
21 called Burleson, as the seat of the newly created Lampasas County on  
22 February 1, 1856; and

23           WHEREAS, The City of Lampasas was officially incorporated by  
24 the 12th Texas Legislature on April 13, 1873; several years later, a

1 group of farmers gathered to discuss the economic issues that were  
2 impacting their livelihoods, which provided the impetus for the  
3 creation of the National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union,  
4 also known as the Farmers' Alliance; the organization would become  
5 a powerful nationwide political movement that, at its height, had a  
6 membership of nearly three million; and

7         WHEREAS, Beginning in 1882, the arrival of the railroad  
8 brought visitors from all over the country to the mineral baths and  
9 grand hotels of Lampasas, which acquired the moniker "the Saratoga  
10 of the South"; Lampasas went on to become the birthplace of the  
11 Texas Bankers Association, the oldest state banking association in  
12 the nation; it was organized in 1885 by two local bankers, Frank  
13 Malone and E. M. Longcope, and had its first meeting at the  
14 luxurious 200-room Lampasas Park Hotel; the rapidly growing town  
15 was also selected as the location for the 1892 Texas Democratic  
16 Convention, which took place at the spacious Hannah Springs  
17 Auditorium; and

18         WHEREAS, Lampasas has been home to a number of famous  
19 figures, including Olympic gold medalist and professional football  
20 player Johnny "Lam" Jones, Keith Null of the St. Louis Rams, and  
21 1970 Super Bowl veteran Jim Hargrove of the Minnesota Vikings and  
22 St. Louis Cardinals; the list of notable natives also includes  
23 Stanley Walker, author, journalist, and editor of the *New York*  
24 *Herald Tribune* during the 1920s and 1930s, whose 1956 book *Home to*  
25 *Texas* describes his return to Lampasas after 40 years in New York;  
26 among other Lampasas icons are Grammy Award-winning fiddle player  
27 Jason Roberts and country music artists Dale and Terry McBride and

1 Donnie Price, as well as prominent individuals such as Joy Mahana  
2 Bishop, the first woman appointed to the Senior Executive Service,  
3 and William Thomas Campbell, co-founder and treasurer of Texaco  
4 Oil; and

5 WHEREAS, Today, Lampasas boasts an array of historic  
6 buildings that showcase the community's past, including the Old  
7 Huling Mansion, the Moses Hughes Home, the Keystone Star Hotel, the  
8 Major Martin White House, and the Adelpia; residents and visitors  
9 enjoy such amenities as the town's four local wineries, as well as  
10 popular eateries like Eve's Café, one of the top customer-rated  
11 German restaurants in the U.S., and Storm's Drive-In, a favorite of  
12 Elvis Presley when the legendary rock and roll singer was stationed  
13 at Fort Hood; area citizens keep up with local news and events by  
14 reading the *Lampasas Dispatch Record* newspaper, which dates back to  
15 1906, and flock to annual gatherings such as the week-long Spring Ho  
16 Festival in July and the Riata Roundup Rodeo in April; and

17 WHEREAS, The people of Lampasas are heirs to a rich and  
18 fascinating history, and they may indeed take pride in the vibrant  
19 community they have built as they come together to mark this  
20 important milestone; now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas  
22 Legislature hereby recognize May 1, 2023, as Lampasas Day at the  
23 State Capitol and extend to its residents sincere best wishes for a  
24 meaningful and memorable celebration of the city's  
25 sesquicentennial; and, be it further

26 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
27 prepared for the City of Lampasas as an expression of high regard by

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1 the Texas House of Representatives.