

By: Sparks

S.R. No. 184

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud citizens from Amarillo and other Texas
2 Panhandle communities are visiting Austin on February 21, 2023, to
3 celebrate Panhandle Day at the State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, The Panhandle is a thriving region of the state and
5 is home to one of the oldest inhabited places in Texas; Palo Duro
6 Canyon, the second-largest canyon in the country, stretches through
7 the northern part of the region, offering spectacular views and
8 revealing through its exposed strata a geologic record spanning
9 some 250 million years; and

10 WHEREAS, Rich in history, the region is also known for its
11 traditional ranch lands, crop and meat production, large areas of
12 oil and gas reserves, major industry, and a nationally recognized
13 workforce; and

14 WHEREAS, Amarillo, the principal northern city of the
15 Panhandle, is a dynamic urban center with a population of more than
16 200,000 and a wide array of cultural amenities; contributing to
17 Amarillo's economic vitality is Bell, formerly known as Bell
18 Helicopter, which is a final assembly center for the V-22 Osprey,
19 the UH-1Y and AH-1Z, and the 525 Relentless helicopters;
20 additionally, a site operated by CNS Pantex for the U.S. Department
21 of Energy National Nuclear Security Administration is the only
22 assembly-disassembly plant for the nation's nuclear weapons
23 arsenal; and

24 WHEREAS, A region of many exemplary citizens and community

1 leaders, the Texas Panhandle is also home to excellent educational
2 institutions; the Texas Tech University System, including its
3 medical, law, pharmacy, and veterinary medicine schools, and West
4 Texas A&M University are among the premier institutions in Texas
5 and boast ever-increasing enrollments, nationally recognized
6 programs and faculty, and outstanding graduates; Amarillo College
7 is one of the finest community colleges in the country, and Wayland
8 Baptist University, Frank Phillips College, and Clarendon College
9 also offer excellent opportunities for higher education in the
10 area; and

11 WHEREAS, Attractions in the region include the
12 Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum, which is located on the campus
13 of West Texas A&M University in Canyon and is the largest history
14 museum in the state; moreover, the Texas Tech University campus is
15 host to many restored structures at the National Ranching Heritage
16 Center, a 27-acre museum and outdoor historical park that traces
17 the evolution of ranch architecture and the history of the cattle
18 industry in Texas; and

19 WHEREAS, Renowned for their friendliness and warmth, the
20 residents of the Panhandle region have helped build vital urban
21 centers that serve not only a large part of Texas but also eastern
22 New Mexico, and it is a pleasure to join in paying tribute to the
23 region's rich heritage; now, therefore, be it

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1 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 88th Texas Legislature
2 hereby recognize February 21, 2023, as Panhandle Day at the State
3 Capitol and extend to the delegations in attendance sincere
4 appreciation for their contributions to the Lone Star State.