

By: Sparks, et al.

S.R. No. 241

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Members of the Texas Telephone Association are  
2 gathering in Austin on February 28, 2023, to celebrate Texas Rural  
3 Broadband Day at the State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, Founded in 1905, TTA represents the state's local  
5 exchange telephone companies and relies heavily on the volunteer  
6 efforts of its member officers and directors who provide voice and  
7 data service to rural Texas; the association's 46 rural  
8 telecommunications providers include telephone cooperatives, small  
9 family-owned companies, and multistate operations; and

10 WHEREAS, Covering almost half of the Lone Star State's land  
11 area and a large portion of the Texas-Mexico border, TTA member  
12 companies serve some 1.4 million rural Texas households and 2,200  
13 rural schools, colleges, government agencies, and other anchor  
14 institutions; thousands of miles of fiber optic and wireline  
15 facilities form the backbone of the rural Texas telecommunications  
16 network, enabling voice and wireless calls, broadband, and a range  
17 of additional advanced services; and

18 WHEREAS, TTA employs approximately 3,800 Texans in full-time  
19 positions and creates thousands of jobs for contractors, materials  
20 suppliers, and other rural Texas businesses; working tirelessly  
21 during adversity, rural phone companies and their technicians have  
22 helped ensure uninterrupted connections for rural Texans during the  
23 challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic; moreover, during Winter Storm  
24 Uri in 2021, technicians braved dangerous conditions, often

1 traveling long distances to power remote switches with generators  
2 and to check on the well-being of customers; and

3 WHEREAS, For well over a century, TTA has played an important  
4 role in keeping rural Texans connected, and it is indeed a pleasure  
5 to join in recognizing the association for its myriad  
6 contributions; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 88th Texas Legislature  
8 hereby recognize February 28, 2023, as Texas Rural Broadband Day at  
9 the State Capitol and extend to all those associated with the Texas  
10 Telephone Association sincere best wishes for continued success;  
11 and, be it further

12 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
13 prepared for TTA as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
14 Senate.