

By: Guillen

H.C.R. No. 71

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The State of Texas is renowned for the diversity of
2 its animal population, and select species have become iconic
3 symbols for certain locations in the state; La Salle County, a
4 renowned destination for hunting in South Texas, has become
5 associated with one of its most challenging quarries, the wild hog;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, These hardy animals are descended from pigs that
8 escaped into the wild as well as Eurasian wild boars that were
9 imported as exotic game in the early 1900s; feral hogs thrive in
10 many parts of the U.S. and have expanded throughout Texas; while
11 their adaptability is impressive, they are recognized as an
12 invasive species that poses serious problems for landowners and
13 other animals; wild hogs forage for food by rooting, and Texas'
14 estimated population of more than three million inflicts
15 substantial damage to crops, pastures, and wildlife habitat each
16 year; and

17 WHEREAS, Hunting has been an important part of efforts to
18 control the numbers of wild hogs, and that is especially true in La
19 Salle County; residents and hunting enthusiasts from across the
20 state and beyond are drawn to the area to pursue the elusive game,
21 and the sport has a sizable impact on the local economy; the county
22 is home to numerous ranches that offer opportunities to hunt feral
23 hogs in addition to other game; and

24 WHEREAS, Building on the popularity of feral hog hunting, the

1 La Salle County Fair hosted the first Wild Hog Cook-Off competition
2 in 1981; the event proved immensely popular and grew rapidly,
3 adding a range of categories, including the much-anticipated
4 artistic presentation contest, in which teams are judged on the
5 elaborate trays they use to serve their food; today, the fair and
6 cook-off take place every March in Cotulla, and the family-friendly
7 event features live music, entertainment, carnival rides, and
8 vendors in addition to the wild hog cooking contest; and

9 WHEREAS, The feral hog hunting industry and the Wild Hog
10 Cook-Off festivities are sources of pride and prosperity for the
11 residents of La Salle County, and the importance of these
12 attractions is indeed deserving of special recognition; now,
13 therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the 89th Legislature of the State of Texas
15 hereby designate La Salle County as the official Wild Hog Capital of
16 Texas; and, be it further

17 RESOLVED, That, in accordance with the provisions of Section
18 [391.003\(e\)](#), Government Code, this designation remain in effect
19 until the 10th anniversary of the date this resolution is finally
20 passed by the legislature.