

By: Kerwin

H.R. No. 789

R E S O L U T I O N

1        WHEREAS, The Chisholm Trail Outdoor Museum in Cleburne draws  
2 on Johnson County's connection to the epic era of cattle drives and  
3 serves as a memorable showcase for the rich history of the local  
4 area as well as that of the wider state; and

5        WHEREAS, From the mid-1860s to the mid-1880s, the Chisholm  
6 Trail served as one of the primary routes by which Texas ranchers  
7 drove cattle to distant rail towns in Kansas; the trail passed  
8 through Johnson County, and the museum occupies a 10-acre site at  
9 the location of Wardville, the first county seat; the site includes  
10 several structures from the 1800s, including the Nolan River  
11 School, a mule barn, and the original Johnson County log  
12 courthouse; and

13       WHEREAS, The Chisholm Trail Outdoor Museum also features a  
14 vast collection of period items, which can be seen at the Douglas  
15 Harman Chisholm Trail Artifacts and Western Memorabilia Museum and  
16 the Big Bear Native American Museum; moreover, visitors can immerse  
17 themselves in the history of the era at the recreated Wardville  
18 sheriff's office and jail and by viewing demonstrations at the  
19 blacksmith shop; the stage station-saloon building helps evoke the  
20 era when thirsty cowboys would ride into town to patronize its many  
21 watering holes, and the restored stagecoach on display was used in a  
22 number of Western movies, including two John Wayne films; and

23       WHEREAS, The museum hosts various educational events, such as  
24 chuckwagon cooking camps and homesteading classes, and over the

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1 years, more than 7,000 students have visited the grounds during  
2 school field trips; in addition, the site serves as a venue for live  
3 music performances, holiday celebrations, and powwows, and its  
4 Pioneer Days event draws thousands of attendees each year; and

5 WHEREAS, The Chisholm Trail Outdoor Museum has demonstrated a  
6 notable commitment to preserving the heritage of the American West,  
7 and it has become a popular destination for visitors and a source of  
8 pride for area residents; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas  
10 Legislature hereby honor the Chisholm Trail Outdoor Museum and  
11 extend to all those associated with the facility sincere best  
12 wishes for the future; and, be it further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
14 prepared for the museum as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
15 House of Representatives.