

By: Hughes

H.R. No. 266

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Many proud residents of Pittsburg are in Austin
2 today, February 19, 2003, to celebrate Pittsburg Day at the State
3 Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, The county seat of Camp County, Pittsburg is also
5 the oldest city in the county; the town was officially named in
6 honor of the family of William Harrison Pitts when the post office
7 was established in 1855, and the loose confederation of farmers and
8 traders who inhabited the area began to settle in earnest; and

9 WHEREAS, With the arrival of railroads in northeast Texas
10 during the 1870s, Pittsburg residents found themselves at the
11 crossroads of two rail lines; the East Line and Red River Railroad
12 ran east-west tracks and the Texas and St. Louis Railway ran
13 north-south, with Pittsburg at the heart of a bustling new shipping
14 and supply network; and

15 WHEREAS, Rail connections and abundant timber in the area
16 generated a prosperous commodity exchange, and soon the town was
17 filled with sawmills, builders, and shopkeepers; the local
18 newspaper, the *Pittsburg Gazette*, began publication in 1884 and has
19 documented the town's successful course through the years ever
20 since; and

21 WHEREAS, Today, Pittsburg continues to enjoy a steady economy
22 based on agriculture, lumber, and light manufacturing; much of the
23 land surrounding the town is still thickly forested, and the area
24 offers some of the best bass lakes in Texas; and

1 WHEREAS, In the old Cotton Belt Railroad depot, the Northeast
2 Texas Rural Heritage Center & Museum exhibits a variety of historic
3 photos and artifacts, including the Ezekiel Airship, a replica of
4 what purportedly is the first flying machine; a walk among the
5 vintage buildings downtown gives eloquent testimony to the charm
6 and grace of the past, which Pittsburg has preserved so well; and

7 WHEREAS, The residents of Pittsburg can reflect on their
8 community's history with great pride, and they can look forward
9 with great expectations to what will undoubtedly be a bright
10 future; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
12 Legislature hereby recognize February 19, 2003, as Pittsburg Day at
13 the State Capitol and extend to its residents sincere best wishes
14 for success and happiness in the future.