

By: Baxter

H.R. No. 531

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Thousands of Texans are looking forward to
2 participating in the Star of Texas Fair and Rodeo (STFR), which is
3 being staged March 22 through April 5, 2003, at the Travis County
4 Exposition Center; and

5 WHEREAS, From a modest beginning in 1938, when county
6 extension agent T. H. Royder and the chamber of commerce held the
7 first Travis County Baby Beef Show at West 11th Street and Congress
8 Avenue in Austin with just 16 animals, the nonprofit fair and rodeo
9 has burgeoned into an annual extravaganza lasting 15 days and
10 featuring numerous highly anticipated events; and

11 WHEREAS, The top fund-raiser for youth education in Central
12 Texas, the Star of Texas Fair and Rodeo contributed \$1.5 million in
13 scholarships and auction proceeds to Texas youth in 2002 alone;
14 within a 45-county area, girls and boys from kindergarten through
15 high school are eligible to participate in the educational and
16 informational programs sponsored by STFR, whose scholarships are
17 provided in conjunction with The University of Texas at Austin,
18 Texas A&M University, Southwest Texas State University, Austin
19 Community College, the Texas FFA Foundation, and the Texas 4-H
20 Foundation; and

21 WHEREAS, Nearly 2,000 volunteers share their time as members
22 of more than 30 committees that meet year-round to ensure the
23 success of the spring spectacular; included in the schedule of
24 activities are a PRCA rodeo, concerts featuring nationally known

1 entertainers, a carnival, a livestock show, a youth fair,
2 educational programs, vendor booths, and a barbecue cook-off, which
3 last year raised more than \$100,000; the 2003 event will also
4 introduce two new attractions--a 5K Sunrise Stampede and a Chuck
5 Wagon Cook-off; and

6 WHEREAS, This year, the Star of Texas Fair and Rodeo has been
7 chosen as one of 10 Wrangler Winter Tour sites whose events will be
8 broadcast nationwide on the Outdoor Life Network and one of 10
9 ProRodeo Xtreme Bull Riding Tour sites whose events will be
10 broadcast nationally on ESPN2; and

11 WHEREAS, For more than 65 years, the staff and volunteers of
12 the Star of Texas Fair and Rodeo have demonstrated a deep commitment
13 to the young people of the Lone Star State, and their exemplary
14 efforts indeed merit our highest praise; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
16 Legislature hereby recognize March 20, 2003, as Star of Texas Fair
17 and Rodeo Day at the State Capitol and extend to all those
18 associated with this event warmest best wishes for a memorable fair
19 and rodeo.