

By: Phillips

H.R. No. 700

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Texas House of Representatives is pleased to
2 join the citizens of Fannin County on April 9, 2003, in a
3 celebration of Fannin County Day at the State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, Located in Northeast Texas along the Red River
5 Valley, Fannin County was the first original county created in 1837
6 by the Congress of the Republic of Texas from Red River County; and

7 WHEREAS, The county once consisted of land including all or
8 parts of 26 present-day counties, spanning more than 350 miles;
9 Fannin County was reduced in size in 1846 when its western boundary
10 was fixed; and

11 WHEREAS, Named for Colonel James Walker Fannin, the Texas
12 hero killed in the massacre at Goliad in 1836, the area attracted
13 its first permanent settlement that same year when several families
14 arrived to build their homes on the rolling prairie and were soon
15 followed by others who settled along the Red River; and

16 WHEREAS, The county seat is the city of Bonham, founded in
17 1836 by Judge Bailey English, who originally named the settlement
18 Bois d'Arc after the native trees predominant in the area; the name
19 of the town was changed to Bonham in 1844 in honor of James B.
20 Bonham, famous messenger in the Battle of the Alamo; and

21 WHEREAS, Bonham is known for its favorite son, Sam Rayburn,
22 who began his political career in the Texas House of
23 Representatives, where he served one year as speaker; the
24 distinguished Texan later went to Washington, D.C., where he was a

1 congressman for 48 years and speaker of the U.S. House of
2 Representatives for 17 years, longer than any other individual in
3 history; and

4 WHEREAS, The Bonham Area Chamber of Commerce was established
5 in 1886 as the Board of Trade; renamed the chamber of commerce in
6 1926, it has been instrumental in bringing jobs and new residents to
7 Bonham and Fannin County, and it is an important force for economic
8 development and prosperity throughout the area; and

9 WHEREAS, Residents of Fannin County have made and are making
10 important contributions to the State of Texas, and it is
11 appropriate to take this opportunity to honor them; now, therefore,
12 be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
14 Legislature hereby recognize April 9, 2003, as Fannin County Day at
15 the State Capitol and extend to the visitors from Fannin County best
16 wishes for a memorable and enjoyable day in Austin.