

By: Zedler

H.R. No. 707

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, April 7, 2003, has been selected as Mansfield Day at  
2 the State Capitol to honor the people of this dynamic North Texas  
3 city and to recognize their outstanding contributions to the  
4 culture, history, and economy of the Lone Star State; and

5           WHEREAS, Situated just south of Arlington, the community of  
6 Mansfield was established when two Fort Worth businessmen, Ralph  
7 Man and Julian Feild, moved to the area in the late 1850s to build a  
8 sawmill and one of the state's first steam-powered gristmills; and

9           WHEREAS, With the advent of the Civil War, Mansfield became a  
10 critical component in the Confederate Army's supply lines and later  
11 played an important role in promoting America's westward expansion;  
12 Mr. Feild, a captain in the 15th Texas Cavalry, delivered milled  
13 flour to the Confederate Army and, after the war, received United  
14 States government contracts to supply flour and meal to Indian  
15 reservations and federal army outposts in West Texas, New Mexico,  
16 and the Indian Territory; and

17           WHEREAS, The continuing demand for local products and the  
18 booming economy helped attract many new residents to the town,  
19 which was incorporated in 1909; Mansfield took a special interest  
20 in promoting education from its earliest days, and in 1869 area  
21 residents helped John Collier establish a new coeducational school,  
22 the Mansfield Male and Female College, in the community; and

23           WHEREAS, Mansfield today continues to contribute to the  
24 success and prosperity of North Texas; over the course of the past

1 four decades, the city's population has grown from only 1,375  
2 residents to nearly 30,000, and it will no doubt continue its upward  
3 trend given the community's many amenities; and

4 WHEREAS, Throughout this period of growth, Mansfield's  
5 devoted civic leaders have worked hard to preserve the town's  
6 unique heritage and to ensure it remains a wonderful place in which  
7 to live, work, and raise a family; the town embarked on a bold  
8 experiment in city planning during the 1970s, when it welcomed a  
9 team of young Texans, graduate students from the Institute of Urban  
10 Studies at The University of Texas at Arlington, to renovate and  
11 revitalize the downtown area; and

12 WHEREAS, Blessed with close proximity to many of the Lone  
13 Star State's finest cultural, recreational, and natural resources,  
14 the city of Mansfield combines the best qualities of small-town  
15 Texas living with those of a thriving Metroplex suburb, and its  
16 citizens are justifiably proud of their hometown's role in shaping  
17 both the past and the future of the great State of Texas; now,  
18 therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas  
20 Legislature hereby recognize April 7, 2003, as Mansfield Day at the  
21 State Capitol and extend to those in attendance warmest best wishes  
22 for a memorable and informative visit.