

By: Jones of Bexar

H.R. No. 782

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Texans owe a debt of gratitude to the National
2 Society of the Colonial Dames of America in the State of Texas for
3 the group's successful efforts to have the bluebonnet named the
4 official State Flower of Texas; and

5 WHEREAS, Founded in February 1898, under the leadership of
6 its first president, Mrs. Samuel M. Welch, the Texas society
7 promoted the bluebonnet as the state flower to the legislature in
8 1901; many members were unfamiliar with the bluebonnet and some put
9 forth other suggestions for this special honor, including John
10 Nance Garner, who made a motion for the cactus bloom, and Phil H.
11 Clements, who aggressively supported the open cotton boll, which he
12 termed "the white rose of commerce"; and

13 WHEREAS, Enlisting the help of Representative John M. Green
14 of Cuero, who eloquently appealed for the bluebonnet, the Texas
15 society spotlighted the wildflower's natural beauty by placing
16 bouquets on members' desks; ultimately, they won by acclamation
17 after displaying a painting of an arrangement of primroses and
18 bluebonnets by Miss Mode Walker; this lovely still life today hangs
19 in the Neill-Cochran House in Austin, which serves as the Texas
20 society's headquarters; and

21 WHEREAS, For more than a century, the National Society of the
22 Colonial Dames of America in the State of Texas has enriched the
23 quality of life in the Lone Star State through its dedication to
24 preserving history and promoting patriotism, and it is a pleasure

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1 to salute this fine organization at this time; now, therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
3 Legislature hereby honor the National Society of the Colonial Dames
4 of America in the State of Texas for its contribution to making the
5 bluebonnet the official State Flower of Texas; and, be it further

6 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
7 prepared for the Texas society as an expression of continuing
8 thanks by the Texas House of Representatives.