

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 88

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize February 11, 2003, as Midland-Odessa Day at the State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, Odessa and Midland are located in the Permian Basin, an important oil-and-gas-rich area of the state; both cities have been shaped by similar historical developments and have benefited from their proximity to each other; to reinforce their unity and to ensure economic diversification and a prosperous future, Midland and Odessa have adopted the "Two Cities-No Limits" motto; and

WHEREAS, The City of Midland was founded in 1881 when the Texas and Pacific Railway established Midway Station at the midpoint on its Dallas-El Paso line; Odessa was likewise founded in 1881, when the Texas Pacific Railway began using the area for a water stop; and

WHEREAS, During the 1920s, the discovery of rich deposits of oil and gas in the Permian Basin transformed the cities of Midland and Odessa into essential petrochemical centers for the State of Texas; the oil and gas industry invigorated the area and brought economic prosperity; over the years, the cities have added new commercial enterprises to assure greater economic stability in the region; and

WHEREAS, The cities have developed the area's economy with the addition of the Family Dollar Stores, Incorporated, Distribution Center, Texas Independent Energy's 1,000 Mega Watt power plant, and the Cingular Wireless Call Center, which employs over 1,500 individuals; and

WHEREAS, Each city possesses unique cultural treasures; Odessa is home to the Presidential Museum, the Ellen Noel Art Museum of the Permian Basin, and a replica of the Globe Theater; residents also take pride in the presence of the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center and The University of Texas of the Permian Basin; and

WHEREAS, Midland is well known for the Permian Basin Petroleum Museum, Library and Hall of Fame, the Commemorative Air Force Museum, and the Museum of the Southwest; and

WHEREAS, Midland is also extremely proud to be the hometown of President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura Bush, as well as the longtime home of former President George H. W. Bush and Florida Governor Jeb Bush; and

WHEREAS, Midland and Odessa have consistently displayed a spirit of cooperation over the years; they jointly established the Midland International Airport and created the Midland-Odessa Transportation Alliance; they also established the Midland

Odessa Health and Retirement Endeavor to heighten their attraction as retirement communities; Midland and Odessa have the only joint postmark in Texas; and

WHEREAS, The more than 100 years of mutual support between these two cities is an inspiring example of cooperation to all Texans; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby commend the citizens of Midland and Odessa as they celebrate their unique heritage on this special day; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the two cities as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Bivins

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 11, 2003.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate