

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 153

WHEREAS, On February 11 and 12, 2003, residents of Rusk County are assembling at the State Capitol in recognition of Rusk County Days; and

WHEREAS, Rusk County, which includes the charming towns of Overton, New London, and Mount Enterprise, is situated 120 miles southeast of Dallas and 75 miles west of Shreveport, Louisiana; the area has been graced with some of the state's most picturesque landscapes, boasting gently rolling hills, bountiful wildflowers, and dense forests; and

WHEREAS, Formed on January 16, 1843, the county was named for Thomas Jefferson Rusk, who had been secretary of war under Republic of Texas President Sam Houston; and

WHEREAS, Rusk County is the site of the great East Texas oil field, which proved to be one of the richest oil finds in United States history; after the discovery of that important natural resource in 1930, the population of the county quickly doubled and many new towns were formed; and

WHEREAS, Today, the diverse economy of the county is primarily comprised of oil, lumber, agribusiness, and tourism; and

WHEREAS, Henderson serves as the county seat and is home to 15 historical markers, including three Texas landmark homes: the Howard-Dickinson House, the M. Kangerga House, and the T. J. Walling Log Cabin; the downtown area of Henderson holds the prestigious designation of National Register Historic District; and

WHEREAS, A compelling tourist destination, Rusk County features many notable attractions, including Lakeforest Park, the Gaston Museum, and Harmony Hill Ghost Town; the Heritage Syrup Festival, held each November, is a highly anticipated event; and

WHEREAS, Abundant in natural resources and charm, Rusk County has contributed to the special character of Texas and is truly an asset to our state; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby recognize February 11 and 12, 2003, as Rusk County Days at the State Capitol and extend to all participants best wishes for an enjoyable visit.

Ratliff

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 12, 2003.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate