

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 154

WHEREAS, Residents of Panola County have traveled to Austin to celebrate Panola County Day at the Capitol, and this occasion offers an excellent opportunity to extend an enthusiastic welcome to these fine Texans; and

WHEREAS, Panola County was officially created on March 30, 1846, by the First Legislature of the State of Texas; Pulaski was the first county seat, but in 1848 an election determined that the county seat should be nearer to the geographic center of the region; 100 acres of land were generously donated by Jonathan Anderson, and the current county seat of Carthage was born; and

WHEREAS, With an economy largely built on the production of cotton, it is indeed appropriate that the county takes its name from an Indian word for cotton; Mississippi cotton grower and early civic leader Judge John Allison lobbied for the name after discovering that the county's soil was conducive to growing the valuable cash crop; and

WHEREAS, Panola County's rivers, lakes, and forests offer an array of recreational opportunities for outdoor enthusiasts; fishing, boating, and hunting are popular pastimes for visitors and residents alike, and the area's temperate climate allows for year-round enjoyment of these and other activities; and

WHEREAS, Residents of Beckville, Gary, Tatum, and other area cities and towns can take pride in the newly opened Texas Country Music Hall of Fame and the Tex Ritter Museum, which attract music lovers from around the world to the county seat; those enshrined in the hall include such luminaries as

S.R. No. 154

Ernest Tubb, Gene Autry, Willie Nelson, Bob Wills, Dale Evans, Waylon Jennings, and Gary native Woodward Maurice "Tex" Ritter; and

WHEREAS, This is truly a special day at the Capitol, and it is a privilege and a pleasure to pay tribute to Panola County and its citizens and to honor those individuals who have made the trip to Austin to take part in today's events; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That February 12, 2003, be designated Panola County Day at the Capitol and that best wishes be extended to all those Panola County residents who have joined us in the Senate Chamber today.

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