

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 156

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize *The Bastrop Advertiser* on the occasion of the newspaper's sesquicentennial, which is being celebrated March 1, 2003; and

WHEREAS, Founded by William J. Cain in March of 1853 as a weekly newspaper, *The Bastrop Advertiser* is one of the oldest private commercial businesses in Bastrop County; when W. J. Cain retired, his brother, T. C. Cain, took ownership of the business, and upon his death, his son, T. W. Cain, took over the publication of the newspaper; and

WHEREAS, Ownership of the newspaper has changed several times during its 150 years of existence; nonetheless, except for a period during the Civil War, *The Bastrop Advertiser* has continuously served the region's citizens as their prime source of news; its news and advertising columns have reflected the business, political, professional, religious, and cultural life of the community of Bastrop and its surroundings; and

WHEREAS, In the 1870s, *The Bastrop Advertiser* began to record the contributions of local citizens to regional and state history; it published the memoirs of Cayton Erhard of Bastrop, a veteran of early military expeditions for the Republic of Texas; the newspaper also followed the political fortunes of residents who later gained prominence as state figures; one of these individuals was George Washington Jones, who became Texas Lieutenant Governor in 1866 and was elected to the United States Congress in 1878; and

WHEREAS, Another prominent state figure was local attorney Joseph D. Sayers; Mr. Sayers served in the Texas Senate and was elected Lieutenant Governor of Texas in 1878; he was elected to the United States Congress in 1884, and he served as the Governor of the State of Texas from 1899 to 1902; and

WHEREAS, In the 20th century, *The Bastrop Advertiser* continued to report on significant regional news of interest to its readers; for example, during World War II, it covered the construction of Camp Swift, which served as a United States Army training base from 1943 to 1946; in 1955, the newspaper joined the Bastrop County Historical Society to publish *In the Shadow of the Lost Pines, A History of Bastrop County and Its People*; and

WHEREAS, A newspaper that serves the people's right to be informed is an important dimension of a free society, and *The Bastrop Advertiser* has fulfilled its mission to offer news of local and human interest to its readers for well over a century; now, therefore, be it

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RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby commend *The Bastrop Advertiser* on its invaluable contributions to the citizens of Bastrop County and extend best wishes to all associated with the newspaper for a joyful sesquicentennial celebration; and, be it further

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

Armbrister

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