

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 174

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to join the citizens of the Texas Panhandle in proclaiming Tuesday, February 25, 2003, as Panhandle Day at the Capitol; and

WHEREAS, A spectacular region in Texas, the Panhandle is rich in history and scenic plains and is home to a host of cities offering a wide array of opportunities; and

WHEREAS, The area is a combination of traditional ranch lands unchanged for centuries, High Plains agriculture, and large stretches of oil and gas reserves; and

WHEREAS, A glimpse of the region's past is provided by the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum located on the campus of West Texas A&M University; the museum provides an intriguing overview of life in the Old West; and

WHEREAS, The Texas Panhandle is home to the Pantex Plant, the nation's only assembly and disassembly facility for its nuclear weapons stockpile; Pantex is responsible for safely and securely maintaining America's nuclear weapons arsenal, BWXT Pantex manages the plant for the Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration; and

WHEREAS, Amarillo was the home of the late Air Force Colonel Rick Husband, Commander of Columbia Space Shuttle Mission STS-107; he and the other six crew members gave their lives to further our knowledge of science and space, and the President of the United States so eloquently stated, "All mankind is in their debt"; and

WHEREAS, The Panhandle City of Amarillo was chosen from a nationwide search to house the Bell Helicopter Textron, Incorporated, Tiltrotor Assembly Center; the center is the first major aircraft manufacturing facility built in Texas in decades; and

WHEREAS, The state's well known Palo Duro Canyon State Park is located in the heart of the Panhandle; the park's arresting scenic canyon contains rocks spanning 200 million years of geologic time; and

WHEREAS, With more than 400,000 residents, the Panhandle offers the opportunities and vitality generated by modern cities and industry, yet its natural beauty and spectacular scenery remain unchanged; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby commend the residents of the Panhandle on their many contributions to our state and extend to them best wishes for a joyous Panhandle Day; and, be it further

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RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the citizens of the Panhandle of Texas as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Bivins
Duncan

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 25, 2003.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate

Member, Texas Senate