SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 231

WHEREAS, On February 25, 2003, many proud residents of Athens gather in Austin to celebrate Athens Day at the State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, Though it was first incorporated in 1856, Athens did not begin its steady development until it was reincorporated in 1901; since that time, this charming North Texas town has seen significant growth and the emergence of a dynamic citizenry; and

WHEREAS, The fertile terrain and temperate climate of the area have made Athens an agribusiness center; in addition, the city is an outdoor enthusiast's paradise, providing opportunities for scuba diving, picnicking, and many other recreational adventures; and

WHEREAS, Home of Trinity Valley Community College, this unique town features many exciting annual events, including the Texas Fiddlers' Contest and Reunion, the Athens Triathlon, and the Stampede PRCA Rodeo; several cultural and tourist attractions grace the landscape of this city as well, including the East Texas Arboretum, the Henderson County Historical Museum, the Murchison Galleries, and the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center, which features 300,000 gallons of aquarium exhibits and every major species of freshwater fish found in Texas; and

WHEREAS, While visiting the State Capitol, the Athens contingent will meet with representatives of various committees and state agencies to discuss issues of interest to local residents; and

WHEREAS, This lovely city continues to be one of the Lone Star State's great assets and an outstanding place in which to live, work, and raise a family, and it is indeed appropriate that the citizens of Athens be given special recognition at this time; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby recognize February 25, 2003, as Athens Day at the State Capitol and join the citizens of that city in paying tribute to one of Texas' fine communities.

Staples

President of the Senate

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

Secretary of the Senate