

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 234

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas takes pleasure in designating March 11, 2003, as Walker County Day at the State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, The Walker County area was explored and settled in the early 1830s by a number of pioneer families, many of whom obtained Mexican land grants, and the county was formed in April, 1846; and

WHEREAS, Walker County developed into a prosperous, flourishing region prior to the Civil War due in part to the establishment of the state penitentiary, Andrew Female College, and Austin College, now Sam Houston State University; Huntsville became the county seat on January 19, 1853; and

WHEREAS, General Sam Houston, victor at the battle at San Jacinto and first president of the Republic of Texas, was attracted to the wooded ambience and peaceful lifestyle of the area and built his home a half mile from the town square in Huntsville; and

WHEREAS, A statue of Sam Houston was completed in 1994; standing 67 feet tall on a 10-foot base, it is the world's tallest statue of an American hero and serves as a fitting tribute to the accomplished statesman who helped make Texas a state and who served as a United States senator and as governor of Texas; and

WHEREAS, A flourishing timber industry followed the arrival of the railroads in the 1870s; today, with increased enrollment at Sam Houston State University, additional Texas Department of Criminal Justice units, and several new business enterprises, Walker County and Huntsville continue to attract new residents; and

WHEREAS, Visitors can explore the Sam Houston Memorial Museum and Park Complex and other historic sites; campers, fishermen, hiking enthusiasts, and other outdoor fans flock to the area's parks, including Sam Houston National Forest and Huntsville State Park; and

WHEREAS, Walker County Day provides an opportunity to honor the county's past and its many assets, which today are enjoyed by residents and vacationers of all ages; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby recognize March 11, 2003, as Walker County Day at the State Capitol and join citizens of this historic and vital region in paying tribute to this wonderful county; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the residents of Walker County as a token of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Ogden

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 11, 2003.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate