

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 276

**WHEREAS**, On March 18, 2003, the Texas Forestry Association is sponsoring a hardwood seedling giveaway near the south steps of the State Capitol in order to promote public awareness of forestry and the importance of the state's timber resources; and

**WHEREAS**, Every year, to meet their goal of maintaining sustainable forests for future Texans, the forest industry and nonindustrial, private landowners replenish the state's forest lands by planting more than 100 million seedlings; and

**WHEREAS**, Forests cover more than 12 million acres of Texas land and provide more than 91,000 jobs, a payroll of more than \$2.3 billion, and a total economic impact of more than \$22 billion, making timber the third most valuable agricultural crop statewide; in East Texas, where 43 counties compose the forest heartland of the state, timber is the number-one-ranking agricultural commodity; and

**WHEREAS**, The Texas Forestry Association strives to ensure that abundant forests will continue to be a dependable resource for the citizens of Texas, and its work has contributed immeasurably to the economic vitality of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby recognize the Texas Forestry Association on the occasion of its March 18, 2003, seedling giveaway at the State Capitol and commend the members of the association for their excellent stewardship of one of the state's greatest natural resources; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for the Texas Forestry Association as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Staples

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 3, 2003.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate