

**SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 383**

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to join Texans across the state in recognizing March 20, 2003, as Chisholm Trail Day at the State Capitol; and

**WHEREAS**, The Chisholm Trail is one of the most widely recognized trails in the history of Texas and the United States; it represents an important period in the development of the cattle industry in Texas that helped the state to recover after the Civil War; and

**WHEREAS**, The Longhorn was a hardy breed of livestock descended from Spanish Andalusian cattle brought to Texas by early 16th century explorers; after Spain abandoned the area in the early 1800s and after the Texas Revolution, the cattle were left to roam free and grew into the millions; and

**WHEREAS**, Worth two dollars a head in Texas, the cattle brought 10 times as much in the North, where railroads led to meatpacking centers in the East; eventually millions of cattle were herded out of Texas in one of the greatest migrations of animals ever known; and

**WHEREAS**, Many tributary routes from South and Central Texas entered a main cattle drive stream that surged north toward Austin, Waco, and Fort Worth before crossing the Red River; while many Texas trails headed north, the Chisholm Trail became the first and best known major cattle trail to the Kansas railheads after the Civil War; today, much of its route parallels the Interstate 35 corridor; and

**WHEREAS**, Fort Worth, which has long been known as "Cowtown", is located on what was the Chisholm Trail routes; the city offers visitors the opportunity to see a daily cattle drive in the historic Stockyards, features a large mural honoring the Chisholm Trail in Sundance Square, and is home to the Cattle Raisers Museum, the Fort Worth Stock Show, the Red Steagall Cowboy Gathering, and other attractions and events honoring our Texas livestock heritage; and

**WHEREAS**, The story of the Chisholm Trail epitomizes a unique period in Texas and United States history and gave rise to the cowboy legend commemorated through books, songs, stories, and mythical tales; to help educate future generations and encourage economic development through heritage tourism, the Texas Historical Commission published a new brochure in 2002, "The Chisholm Trail: Exploring the Folklore and Legacy"; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby express appreciation to the Texas Historical Commission and other state agencies and to local governments, museums, historic sites, and community groups for

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their efforts in keeping alive the memory of the Chisholm Trail and declare March 20, 2003, Chisholm Trail Day at the State Capitol; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared as a memento of this occasion.

Nelson

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 20, 2003.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate