

By: Goolsby

H.R. No. 14

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The city of Dallas, which has contributed so much to
2 the development of Texas and done so much to define Texas in the
3 eyes of the world, is celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2006; and

4 WHEREAS, Founded by John Neely Bryan near a ford on the
5 Trinity River, Dallas was platted in 1844 and incorporated on
6 February 2, 1856; it has served as the county seat of Dallas County
7 ever since the latter jurisdiction was organized in 1846; and

8 WHEREAS, Dallas quickly became a service center for the
9 surrounding area and had a recorded population of 678 on the eve of
10 the Civil War; in addition to North American Anglos and African
11 Americans, residents included Belgians, Swiss, Germans, and
12 French; following the war, many freed slaves migrated to Dallas in
13 search of work and settled in freedmen's towns on the outskirts of
14 the city; and

15 WHEREAS, The arrival of the Houston and Texas Central Railway
16 in 1872 and the Texas and Pacific Railway in 1873 secured the city's
17 future; from 3,000 citizens in 1870, the population rose to more
18 than 10,000 in 1880 and soared to over 38,000 in 1890, when Dallas
19 ranked as the largest city in Texas; advantageously situated,
20 Dallas shipped such raw materials to northern and eastern markets
21 as cotton, leather, and--until the southern herd was
22 extinguished--buffalo hides; and

23 WHEREAS, By 1900, Dallas boasted the largest inland cotton
24 market in the world and also ranked as the world's chief

1 manufacturer of saddlery and cotton-gin machinery; in addition to
2 its importance as a hub for trade, it had become a center for the
3 banking and insurance industries; and

4 WHEREAS, The effects of the Great Depression were somewhat
5 mitigated in Dallas by the discovery of oil in East Texas in 1930;
6 Dallas bankers pioneered the concept of allowing petroleum
7 companies to use oil in the ground as collateral, and Dallas quickly
8 became a center for petroleum financing; the Dallas economy also
9 benefited from a major engineering project to move and straighten
10 the Trinity River channel and from the city's selection to host the
11 Texas Centennial in 1936; and

12 WHEREAS, With the establishment of war-related industries in
13 Dallas during World War II, the city evolved into a major
14 manufacturing center, and the end of the war brought a rush of
15 development reminiscent of the boom that followed the coming of the
16 railroads; in the 1950s and 1960s, such companies as Texas
17 Instruments, Ling-Temco-Vought, and Electronic Data Systems helped
18 to make Dallas the third-largest technology center in the country,
19 while Dallas Market Center, established originally as a home
20 furnishings mart in 1957, now constitutes the largest wholesale
21 merchandise resource in the world; and

22 WHEREAS, Further consolidating the city's prominence in the
23 arenas of business and finance was the opening, in 1974, of the
24 Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport; and

25 WHEREAS, Among the many pillars on which the fame of Dallas
26 rests, one of the proudest is education; the city is home to
27 Southern Methodist University, The University of Texas

1 Southwestern Medical School, Paul Quinn College, Dallas Baptist
2 University, and several campuses of Dallas County Community
3 College; and

4 WHEREAS, The arts, too, have enriched the life of the city and
5 brought it renown; Dallas enjoys the distinction of being home to
6 the first modern, nonprofit professional resident theater in the
7 country, the first museum in the world dedicated solely to modern
8 and contemporary sculpture, and the largest urban cultural district
9 in the nation; and

10 WHEREAS, For many, Dallas is indelibly linked with another
11 realm of endeavor, professional sports; today, the city's major
12 league franchises include the Dallas Cowboys, the Dallas Mavericks,
13 and the Dallas Stars, and their respective seasons are followed by
14 legions of fans; the city also has a long history of amateur,
15 semiprofessional, and minor league sports, and the first high
16 school football team in Texas is thought to have been organized in
17 Dallas in 1900; and

18 WHEREAS, The evolution of Dallas has been accompanied by
19 several changes in the structure of its government; installed in
20 1856, the first leaders of the young community included Mayor
21 Samuel B. Pryor and six aldermen; a half-century later, in 1907,
22 Dallas adopted the commission form of government, and in 1930 the
23 city chose a council-manager arrangement, with council members
24 elected at large; and

25 WHEREAS, Sworn into office in 1931, the first Dallas City
26 Council included Mayor T. L. Bradford and members W. H. Painter,
27 Joe C. Thomas, T. M. Cullum, A. B. Moore, H. C. Burroughs, Victor H.

1 Hexter, Charles F. Turner, and E. R. Brown; and

2 WHEREAS, Dallas switched to single-member districts in 1971,
3 and the number of those districts was expanded to 14 in 1992; the
4 present city council is composed of Mayor Laura Miller; deputy
5 mayor pro tem Dr. Elba Garcia, District 1; Pauline Medrano,
6 District 2; Ed Oakley, District 3; Dr. Maxine Thornton-Reese,
7 District 4; mayor pro tem Donald W. Hill, District 5; Steve Salazar,
8 District 6; Leo V. Chaney, Jr., District 7; James L. Fantroy,
9 District 8; Gary Griffith, District 9; Bill Blaydes, District 10;
10 Linda Koop, District 11; Ron Natinsky, District 12; Mitchell
11 Rasansky, District 13; and Angela Hunt, District 14; and

12 WHEREAS, Those who have served as mayor of Dallas are Samuel
13 B. Pryor, 1856-1857; John McClannahan Crockett, 1857-1858; Isaac
14 Naylor, 1858; A. D. Rice, 1858-1859; John M. Crockett, 1859-1861;
15 J. L. Smith, 1861; Thomas E. Sherwood, 1861-1862; John M. Crockett,
16 1865-1866; John M. Lane, 1866; George W. Guess, 1866-1868; Benjamin
17 Long, 1868-1870; Henry Ervay, 1870-1872; Benjamin Long, 1872-1874;
18 W. L. Cabell, 1874-1876; John D. Kerfoot, 1876-1877; W. L. Cabell,
19 1877-1879; J. M. Thurmond, 1879-1880; J. J. Good, 1880-1881; J. W.
20 Crowdus, 1881-1883; W. L. Cabell, 1883-1885; John Henry Brown,
21 1885-1887; Winship C. Connor, 1887-1894; Bryan T. Barry, 1894-1895;
22 F. P. Holland, 1895-1897; Bryan T. Barry, 1897-1898; John H.
23 Traylor, 1898-1900; Ben E. Cabell, 1900-1904; Bryan T. Barry,
24 1904-1906; Curtis P. Smith, 1906-1907; Stephen J. Hay, 1907-1911;
25 W. M. Holland, 1911-1915; Henry D. Lindsley, 1915-1917; Joe E.
26 Lawther, 1917-1919; Frank W. Rozenkraft, 1919-1921; Sawnie R.
27 Alderedge, 1921-1923; Louis Blaylock, 1923-1927; R. E. Burt,

1 1927-1929; J. Waddy Tate, 1929-1931; T. L. Bradford, 1931-1932;
2 Charles E. Turner, 1931-1935; George Sergeant, 1935-1937; George
3 Sprague, 1937-1939; Woodall Rodgers, 1939-1947; J. R. Temple,
4 1947-1949; Wallace H. Savage, 1949-1951; J. B. Adoue, 1951-1953;
5 Robert L. Thornton, 1953-1961; Earle Cabell, 1961-1964; Erik
6 Jonsson, 1964-1971; Wes Wise, 1971-1976; Adelene Harrison, 1976;
7 Robert Folsom, 1977-1981; Jack Evans, 1981-1983; Starke Taylor,
8 1983-1987; Annette Strauss, 1987-1991; Steve Bartlett, 1991-1995;
9 Ron Kirk, 1995-2002; and Laura Miller, 2002-present; and

10 WHEREAS, Over the past 150 years, Dallas has emerged as one of
11 the foremost cities in Texas and one of the most dynamic
12 metropolitan areas in the nation, and its bright future holds
13 extraordinary opportunities for countless citizens and enormous
14 promise for the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
16 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby congratulate Mayor Laura
17 Miller and the people of Dallas on that city's 150th anniversary and
18 extend to them sincere best wishes as they continue to build on a
19 remarkable record of achievement.