

By: Gonzalez Toureilles

H.R. No. 83

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The history of the Lone Star State has been richly
2 influenced by family farming and ranching, and James L. Rayes and
3 his sister, Susan "Rebecca" Rayes Glover, have been formally
4 acknowledged as heirs to that proud tradition with the acceptance
5 of the Lewis Ranch into the Texas Family Land Heritage Program; and

6 WHEREAS, Sponsored by the Texas Department of Agriculture,
7 the Family Land Heritage Program recognizes farms and ranches that
8 have been continuously operated by the same family for a century or
9 more; and

10 WHEREAS, Located in Atascosa and McMullen Counties, the Lewis
11 Ranch had its origins in 1905, when Gonzales County native James P.
12 Lewis purchased 10,000 acres from E. M. Tom; Mr. Lewis and his wife,
13 Margaret Dilworth Lewis, raised cattle, hay, and cotton on their
14 property, where they lived with their two children, James and
15 Susan; and

16 WHEREAS, In 1950, James Lewis, Jr., and his sister, Susan
17 Lewis Peck, acquired 6,783 acres of the land, and with their
18 spouses, Eva Coe Lewis and B. N. Peck, they raised cattle and hay;
19 James died in 1954, but his widow carried on, managing and improving
20 the ranch in spite of serious droughts in the 1950s; and

21 WHEREAS, In 1958, James and Eva's daughter and son-in-law,
22 Margaret and Perry O. Rayes, acquired 5,983 acres of the ranch; they
23 continued to raise cattle and hay and made extensive improvements;
24 and

1 WHEREAS, The three children of Margaret and Perry Rayes
2 inherited the land in 1998; siblings James L. Rayes and Rebecca
3 Rayes Glover, great-grandchildren of the founder, acquired 4,604
4 acres; in addition to raising cattle and hay, the pair are focusing
5 on land improvement and wildlife management, with Rebecca Glover's
6 husband, David, supervising the latter endeavor; and

7 WHEREAS, Today, the family is active in the Texas and
8 Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association, Independent Cattlemen's
9 Association of Texas, Texas Quarter Horse Association, and Texas
10 Farm Bureau; and

11 WHEREAS, The role of the family ranch in Texas history is both
12 significant and long-standing, and it is most appropriate that the
13 Lewis Ranch be recognized for its enduring contributions to
14 agriculture in 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 James L. Rayes
17 and Susan "Rebecca" Rayes Glover on the recognition accorded the
18 Lewis Ranch by the Family Land Heritage Program and extend to all
19 those associated with the ranch sincere best wishes for continued
20 success; and, be it further

21 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
22 prepared for the Rayes and Glover families as an expression of high
23 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.