

By: Gallego

H.C.R. No. 131

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The year 2005 marks the 50th anniversary of the  
2 efforts of the community of Monahans to preserve a portion of the  
3 sand hills of Ward and Winkler Counties for public visitation; and

4 WHEREAS, The sand hills near Monahans are a unique geological  
5 feature of the Texas landscape that encompass such distinctive  
6 attractions as the miniature Harvard Oak, stunning sand dunes, a  
7 historic "railroad section house," abundant wildlife, and  
8 significant archaeological resources; and

9 WHEREAS, The impetus to preserve this area was begun in 1955  
10 by the Monahans Sandhills Park Association, which identified  
11 suitable park land, made appropriate arrangements, and persuaded  
12 the citizens of Ward County to underwrite the development of the  
13 park, including the purchase of 320 acres and the construction of a  
14 museum; after its official opening as a state park in 1957,  
15 community support of the project continued with the active  
16 involvement of the Friends of Monahans Sandhills State Park; and

17 WHEREAS, That organization's many contributions include the  
18 creation of the first Lone Star Legacy park endowment fund in 1994  
19 and the funding of renovations to the Dunagan Visitor Center; the  
20 committed group of volunteers received the 1996 Outstanding Service  
21 Club Award from the Texas Recreation and Park Society and the 1997  
22 Southwest Regional Council Award as the outstanding service club in  
23 a five-state region; and

24 WHEREAS, The Friends of Monahans Sandhills State Park has

1 served as an inspiration to other state park support organizations,  
2 and its generous contributions, along with the invaluable support  
3 of the Monahans community, have benefited the residents of the Lone  
4 Star State for five decades; now, therefore, be it

5         RESOLVED, That the 79th Legislature of the State of Texas  
6 hereby honor the Friends of Monahans Sandhills State Park and  
7 recognize the dedication of those who have tirelessly worked to  
8 promote and sustain this region of the state's distinctive  
9 landscape for the past half-century; and, be it further

10         RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
11 prepared for the Friends of Monahans Sandhills State Park as an  
12 expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives and  
13 Senate.