

By: Hamilton

H.R. No. 57

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The cultural, historical, and economic  
2 contributions of Orange County are of singular importance to Texas,  
3 and on January 31, 2005, a delegation of proud citizens from this  
4 vital region are visiting the State Capitol to celebrate their  
5 county's rich legacy; and

6           WHEREAS, Named for an orange grove found flourishing on the  
7 banks of the Sabine River by French and Spanish explorers, Orange  
8 County was created in 1852 from the East Texas county of Jefferson  
9 and is bordered on the east by the Sabine River and on the south and  
10 west by the Neches River; and

11           WHEREAS, With its temperate climate and long growing season,  
12 this East Texas gem is a significant producer of nursery plants,  
13 forestry products, citrus fruits, dairy products, crawfish, and  
14 cattle; industrial development also has brought prosperity to area  
15 residents, many of whom work in shipping, shipbuilding,  
16 manufacturing, and petrochemical processing; and

17           WHEREAS, Blessed with heavily wooded acreage, marshes,  
18 grasslands, and an abundance of water, Orange County is an ideal  
19 location for such activities as freshwater and saltwater fishing,  
20 hunting, and bird-watching; and

21           WHEREAS, The county seat of Orange boasts a vibrant heritage  
22 and is home to the Lutchter Theater for the Performing Arts, the  
23 Heritage House Museum, the Stark Museum of Art, the W. H. Stark  
24 House, and the USS *Orleck* DD6 Destroyer; and

1           WHEREAS, Residents also enjoy educational and cultural  
2 enrichment through Lamar State College and such assets as the Ron  
3 Lewis Library, the Orange Public Library, the Heritage History  
4 Museum, the Orange Community Playhouse, and the Nature Classroom,  
5 and look forward to visiting the Shangri La Nature Preserve, to be  
6 opened in late 2005; in addition, residents and tourists take part  
7 in a multitude of outdoor county events, including the Mardi  
8 Gras-Gumbo Festival and the Mauriceville Crawfish Festival; and

9           WHEREAS, The citizens of Orange County are justifiably proud  
10 of their fine community; in light of its many contributions to the  
11 State of Texas, it is indeed appropriate that Orange County be given  
12 special legislative recognition at this time; now, therefore, be it

13           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
14 Legislature hereby recognize January 31, 2005, as Orange County Day  
15 at the State Capitol and join with the residents of Orange County in  
16 paying tribute to this fine county.