

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Residents of Matagorda County are gathering at the  
2 State Capitol on February 8, 2005, to celebrate the role their  
3 county has played in the history of our great state; and

4           WHEREAS, In 1820, Moses Austin received a land grant that  
5 included the fertile land between the Colorado and Brazos Rivers;  
6 his son, Stephen F. Austin, continued his father's plans of  
7 establishing a settlement in this Gulf Coast prairie region; and

8           WHEREAS, After the Texas Revolution, in 1836, Matagorda  
9 County was organized as one of the first 23 counties of the Republic  
10 of Texas; the name "matagorda" is the Spanish word for thick brush,  
11 and it is derived from the canebrakes that formerly lined the  
12 county's shore; in the 19th century, the region's fertile soil,  
13 ample rainfall, and mild climate attracted hundreds of settlers,  
14 who maximized the land for farming and ranching, and the area's  
15 forests provided pioneer families with an abundant supply of wood  
16 for building and fuel; and

17           WHEREAS, Cotton and sugar quickly became the dominant crops,  
18 but in later years, the county expanded its agricultural economy to  
19 include rice, corn, soybeans, milo, and other grains; today, the  
20 region is home to the South Texas Nuclear Power Project and boasts a  
21 diverse economy of agriculture, petrochemicals, plastics, and oil  
22 and gas; and

23           WHEREAS, Matagorda County is a desirable destination for  
24 visitors who enjoy the benefits of nature and outdoor recreational

1 activities, such as boating, sailing, fishing, and water skiing;  
2 birdwatching has become a particularly popular pastime as the  
3 county has led all of North America in the prestigious Audubon  
4 Christmas Bird Count and 246 species were observed in December 2004  
5 alone; and

6 WHEREAS, The area also draws many visitors and residents  
7 alike to the Matagorda County Rodeo, the Christmas Lighted Parade  
8 and Tour of Homes, the Shrimporee and Blessing of the Fleet, Bayfest  
9 in November, the Rice Festival in October, and an annual cattle  
10 drive across the Colorado River to Matagorda Peninsula; in addition  
11 to the county seat, Bay City, other towns in the region include  
12 Palacios, Blessing, Cedar Lane, Collegeport, Elmaton, Markham,  
13 Matagorda, Midfield, Pledger, Sargent, Van Vleck, and Wadsworth;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, The residents of this fine Texas county have played  
16 an important part in preserving their region's past and preparing  
17 for a productive future, and it is a pleasure to pay tribute to  
18 Matagorda County and its citizens on this special day; now,  
19 therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
21 Legislature hereby recognize February 8, 2005, as Matagorda County  
22 Day at the State Capitol and extend to the delegation here today  
23 sincere best wishes for an enjoyable visit.

Dawson

Craddick	Geren	Menendez
Allen of Harris	Giddings	Merritt
Allen of Dallas	Gonzales	Miller
Alonzo	Gonzalez Toureilles	Moreno of Harris
Anchia	Goodman	Moreno of El Paso
Anderson	Goolsby	Morrison
Bailey	Griggs	Mowery
Baxter	Grusendorf	Naishtat
Berman	Guillen	Nixon
Blake	Haggerty	Noriega
Bohac	Hamilton	Oliveira
Bonnen	Hamric	Olivo
Branch	Hardcastle	Orr
Brown of Kaufman	Harper-Brown	Otto
Brown of Brazos	Hartnett	Paxton
Burnam	Hegar	Pena
Callegari	Herrero	Phillips
Campbell	Hilderbran	Pickett
Casteel	Hill	Pitts
Castro	Hochberg	Puente
Chavez	Hodge	Quintanilla
Chisum	Homer	Raymond
Coleman	Hope	Reyna
Cook of Navarro	Hopson	Riddle
Cook of Colorado	Howard	Ritter
Corte	Hughes	Rodriguez
Crabb	Hunter	Rose
Crownover	Hupp	Seaman
Davis of Harris	Isett	Smith of Tarrant
Davis of Dallas	Jackson	Smith of Harris
Dawson	Jones of Lubbock	Smithee
Delisi	Jones of Dallas	Solis
Denny	Keel	Solomons
Deshotel	Keffer of Dallas	Strama
Driver	Keffer of Eastland	Swinford
Dukes	King of Parker	Talton
Dunnam	King of Zavala	Taylor
Dutton	Kolkhorst	Thompson
Edwards	Krusee	Truitt
Eiland	Kuempel	Turner
Eissler	Laney	Uresti
Elkins	Laubenberg	Van Arsdale
Escobar	Leibowitz	Veasey
Farabee	Luna	Villarreal
Farrar	Madden	Vo
Flores	Martinez	West
Flynn	Martinez Fischer	Wong
Frost	McCall	Woolley
Gallego	McClendon	Zedler
Gattis	McReynolds	

H.R. No. 184

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 184 was adopted by the House on  
February 8, 2005, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House