

1-1 By: Seliger S.C.R. No. 8
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 28, 2005; March 10, 2005,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Intergovernmental
1-4 Relations; March 17, 2005, reported favorably by the following
1-5 vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; March 17, 2005, sent to printer.)

1-6 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-7 WHEREAS, The Legislature of the State of Texas is pleased to
1-8 recognize the importance of the chuck wagon to the state's history
1-9 and culture and to designate it as the official vehicle of Texas;
1-10 and

1-11 WHEREAS, The chuck wagon has been important in Texas since
1-12 the great cattle drives that lasted from the end of the Civil War to
1-13 the mid-1880s; during that period, approximately 10 million head of
1-14 cattle were driven along trails all the way from Texas to railheads
1-15 in Kansas, Missouri, Wyoming, and Canada; and

1-16 WHEREAS, During the early days of the trail drives, a cowboy
1-17 relied for survival strictly on what he could carry with him,
1-18 experiencing hunger and discomfort; and

1-19 WHEREAS, In 1866, Texas rancher and Civil War veteran Charles
1-20 Goodnight first used an army surplus Studebaker wagon on the trail
1-21 drive; the Studebaker proved itself sturdy enough to withstand
1-22 trail drives that could last up to five months; and

1-23 WHEREAS, Goodnight then designed and added a chuck box and a
1-24 boot to the rear of his wagon; this innovation became the prototype
1-25 for all future chuck wagons; the wagon's box was used to carry the
1-26 cowboys' bedrolls, guns, personal effects, bulk food supplies, feed
1-27 for the horses, and other supplies; and

1-28 WHEREAS, Today The American Chuck Wagon Association has 123
1-29 registered chuck wagons and over 200 members; the association's
1-30 members are committed to restoring and maintaining chuck wagons
1-31 with their own resources, which has ensured that the chuck wagon
1-32 will continue to function as a viable tool on many of our Texas
1-33 ranches and add to our state's historical and cultural charm; now,
1-34 therefore, be it

1-35 RESOLVED, That the 79th Legislature of the State of Texas
1-36 hereby acknowledge the important value of preserving the chuck
1-37 wagon and designate the chuck wagon as the official vehicle of
1-38 Texas; and, be it further

1-39 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be prepared as an
1-40 expression of esteem from the Texas Legislature.

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