By: Seliger S.C.R. No. 31

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Legislature of the State of Texas is pleased to join the citizens of Amarillo and Texans across the Panhandle in recognizing May 5, 2005, as the 54th annual National Day of Prayer;

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WHEREAS, The theme for this year's National Day of Prayer is
"God Shed His Grace on Thee"; in the Amarillo area, observance will
begin with a prayer breakfast at Saint Thomas the Apostle Catholic
Church at 6:30 a.m.; and

WHEREAS, An hour of praise music begins at 11:00 a.m. on the lawn of the Civic Center and will be followed by a prayer program at noon that will be attended by representatives from area churches and government; at 6:30 p.m., young people will gather in John Stiff Park to listen to local bands and to pray for law enforcement personnel and firemen and pay tribute to their work; and

WHEREAS, Civic prayers and national days of prayer have had a long and enduring history in America and date back to 1775 when the First Continental Congress asked the colonies to pray for wisdom in forming a nation; and

WHEREAS, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a day of "humiliation, fasting, and prayer" in 1863; the annual National Day of Prayer was established when President Harry Truman signed a joint resolution by Congress in 1952; the permanent date was set in 1988 by President Ronald Reagan as the first Thursday of May; and

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WHEREAS, Prayer has remained an integral part of this 1 2 country's rich history, and the National Day of Prayer is an opportunity for citizens of all faiths to gather and express 3 gratitude for the many blessings and liberties we have and to pray 4 5 for this nation, its people, and its leaders; now, therefore, be it RESOLVED, That the 79th Legislature of the State of Texas 6 7 hereby commend the people of Amarillo and across the Texas Panhandle for organizing prayer vigils and celebrations on May 5 8 9 and encourage all citizens in Texas to observe this year's National Day of Prayer; and, be it further 10 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be prepared in honor 11 12 of this special day.