

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 66

**WHEREAS**, Orange County's cultural, historical, and economic contributions to our state are significant, and on January 31, 2005, a delegation of proud citizens from this vital region is visiting the State Capitol to celebrate the county's rich legacy; and

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

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

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

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

**WHEREAS**, Residents of Orange also enjoy educational and cultural enrichment through Lamar State College and such assets as the Orange Public Library, the Heritage History Museum, the Orange Community Playhouse, and the Nature Classroom; in addition, the Shangri La Nature Preserve will be opened in late 2005; residents and tourists can take part in a multitude of outdoor county events, including the Mardi Gras-Gumbo Festival, the Mauriceville Crawfish Festival, the Orangefield Crab and Crawfish Festival, and the Vidor Bar-B-Q Festival; and

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

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, hereby recognize January 31, 2005, as Orange County Day at the State Capitol; and, be it further

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**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared as a tribute to Orange County citizens.

Williams

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on January 31, 2005.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate