

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 132

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to join the proud citizens of Jefferson County in celebrating Jefferson County Days at the Capitol on February 13 through February 15; and

WHEREAS, Named for Thomas Jefferson, Jefferson County was formed in 1836 and was one of the original counties in the Republic of Texas; it is bordered on the east by the Neches River, Sabine Lake, and Sabine Pass and on the south by the Gulf of Mexico; and

WHEREAS, On January 10, 1901, the discovery of oil at Spindletop created a new energy industry for the area; the county remains one of the world's largest petrochemical and refining complexes; it also enjoys a thriving economy based on agriculture, customer service centers, and precision industrial equipment supply companies; and

WHEREAS, Snow geese and many species of duck and other waterfowl populate the county's enchanting marshes, providing for excellent hunting; the area rivers and lakes and the Gulf of Mexico provide for excellent freshwater and saltwater fishing, as well as shrimping; and

WHEREAS, Residents of Jefferson County enjoy educational and cultural enrichment through Lamar University, Lamar Institute of Technology, and Lamar State College--Port Arthur; they also enjoy such assets as the restored boomtown at Spindletop, the South East Texas Entertainment Complex, the Sabine Pass Battleground State Historical Park, and the Tex Ritter Park at Nederland; in addition, residents and tourists can take part in a multitude of outdoor county events, including the Heritage Festival in Nederland, the South Texas Fair in Beaumont, the annual Mardi Gras festivities in Port Arthur, and the Groves Pecan Festival; and

WHEREAS, Jefferson County residents gather for these and other special events and activities and work together effectively and cohesively for the good of all Southeast Texas; to that end, the chambers of commerce of Beaumont, Groves, Nederland, Port Arthur, and Port Neches have combined forces to form the Jefferson County Chambers of Commerce Legislative Response Team; and

WHEREAS, Jefferson County is known for its resourceful and energetic citizens, and they deserve recognition for preserving their county's past and planning for its promising future; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, hereby pay tribute to the exemplary citizens of Jefferson County and declare February 13 through February 15, 2005, Jefferson County Days at the State Capitol; and, be it further

S.R. No. 132

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for Jefferson County as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Williams, Janek

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 15, 2005.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate

Member, Texas Senate