

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 197

WHEREAS, Members of the Texas Senate are pleased to join the citizens of Fannin County on February 23, 2005, in celebration of Fannin County Day at the State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, Located in Northeast Texas along the Red River Valley, Fannin County was the first original county created in 1837 by the Congress of the Republic of Texas from Red River County; and

WHEREAS, The county once consisted of land including all or parts of 26 present-day counties, spanning more than 350 miles; Fannin County was reduced in size in 1846 when its western boundary was fixed; and

WHEREAS, Named for Colonel James Walker Fannin, the Texas hero killed in the massacre at Goliad in 1836, the area attracted its first permanent settlement that same year when several families arrived to build their homes on the rolling prairie and were soon followed by others who settled along the Red River; and

WHEREAS, The county seat is the City of Bonham, founded in 1836 by Judge Bailey English, who originally named the settlement Bois d'Arc after the native trees predominant in the area; the name of the town was changed to Bonham in 1844 in honor of James B. Bonham, famous messenger in the Battle of the Alamo; and

WHEREAS, Bonham is known for its favorite son, Sam Rayburn, who began his political career in the Texas House of Representatives, where he served one year as speaker; the distinguished Texan later went to Washington, D.C., where he was a congressman for 48 years and speaker of the United States House of Representatives for 17 years, longer than any other individual in history; and

WHEREAS, The Bonham Area Chamber of Commerce was established in 1886 as the Board of Trade; renamed the chamber of commerce in 1926, it has been instrumental in bringing jobs and new residents to Bonham and Fannin County, and it is an important force for economic development and prosperity throughout the area; and

WHEREAS, Residents of Fannin County have made and are making important contributions to the State of Texas, and it is appropriate to take this opportunity to honor them; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, hereby recognize February 23, 2005, as Fannin County Day at the State Capitol and extend to the visitors from Fannin County best wishes for a memorable and enjoyable day in Austin.

Deuell

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 23, 2005.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate