

By: Rose

H.C.R. No. 220

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Jacob's Well is a prolific artesian spring in
2 Wimberley, Hays County, Texas; rising from the largest underground
3 water cave in the Trinity Aquifer, it provides a perpetual flow of
4 clear, exceptionally pure spring water to Cypress Creek and the
5 Blanco River; and

6 WHEREAS, The spring and creek, along which the Village of
7 Wimberley was built, contribute to the aesthetic beauty and
8 commercial vitality of that community, and to the environmental
9 integrity and quality of life in the surrounding Hill Country
10 region; and

11 WHEREAS, Clean water and open space are both an economic
12 advantage and an essential part of our Texas heritage, yet both are
13 disappearing in Hays County because of the pressures of continuing
14 population growth; and

15 WHEREAS, In 1996, the Wimberley Valley Watershed Association
16 was established to ensure the economic and environmental health of
17 the valley by protecting the pristine aquifers and watersheds of
18 Jacob's Well, Cypress Creek, and the Blanco River, and by
19 preserving the lush open space that defines the rural and ranching
20 traditions of the Hill Country; and

21 WHEREAS, Hays County is greatly enriched by the association
22 and its goal of preserving both the quality and the quantity of the
23 bountiful water sources on which the Wimberley Valley relies; and

24 WHEREAS, The Wimberley Valley Watershed Association has

1 committed to a leadership role, working with elected officials,
2 businesses, and citizens throughout the valley and Central Texas to
3 guarantee the sustainability and health of the area's hydrological
4 endowment; and

5 WHEREAS, In the area surrounding Jacob's Well, the
6 association has purchased 55 acres to ensure that the land in the
7 vicinity, as well as contributing aquifers and watersheds, are
8 protected for the benefit of future generations of Texans who
9 reside in or visit the community; and

10 WHEREAS, As part of this effort, the association has embarked
11 on the development of a Jacob's Well Natural Area master plan,
12 through which it will apply its best efforts to implement a regional
13 land conservation program including voluntary conservation
14 easements and requisite scientific research; and

15 WHEREAS, Education lies at the core of the association's
16 mission, and the Jacob's Well Natural Area will provide an ideal
17 setting for informational programs, and will encourage a spirit of
18 involvement in land and water stewardship among civic
19 organizations, students of all ages, business and government
20 leaders, and residents; now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the 80th Legislature of the State of Texas
22 hereby support the establishment of the Jacob's Well Natural Area,
23 the associated missions of the Wimberley Valley Watershed
24 Association, and regional conservation initiatives by the
25 association to protect the natural beauty and economic vitality of
26 Hays County; and, be it further

27 RESOLVED, That the legislature strongly recommend the

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1 Jacob's Well Natural Area project for funding from any parks or open
2 space grant or program, or from any other funding source that
3 assists the goals of this commendable project.