

By: King of Parker

H.R. No. 288

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A delegation of citizens from Wise County is
2 visiting the State Capitol to celebrate Wise County Day on February
3 13, 2007; and

4 WHEREAS, The original inhabitants of the rolling, fertile
5 prairie that is now Wise County were the Wichita tribe, who were
6 supplanted by Caddo Indians in the 1830s; the first European
7 settlement began in Deep Creek in 1854; and

8 WHEREAS, Established in 1856, Wise County was named for Henry
9 A. Wise, a United States Congressman and governor of Virginia who
10 supported the annexation of Texas into the United States; the
11 county seat, originally named Taylorsville after United States
12 president Zachary Taylor, was renamed Decatur after naval hero
13 Stephen Decatur; and

14 WHEREAS, While cotton, cattle, and coal were the mainstays of
15 the county's economy in the 19th and early 20th centuries, today the
16 county prospers from agribusiness, manufacturing, and petroleum;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Many visitors are drawn to Decatur by such historic
19 attractions as the Wise County Heritage Museum, the Old Stone
20 Prison, Waggoner Mansion, and the striking Wise County Courthouse,
21 constructed of pink granite and completed in 1896; and

22 WHEREAS, Wise County is a fine destination for outdoor
23 recreation; at Lake Bridgeport visitors can enjoy swimming,
24 boating, fishing, and other water sports, and the Lyndon Baines

1 Johnson National Grasslands is a premier location for hiking,
2 camping, and bird-watching; and

3 WHEREAS, The residents of Wise County celebrate their
4 heritage annually with several festivals, including the Chisolm
5 Trail Days in Decatur every June and the Butterfield Stage Days in
6 Bridgeport in May; and

7 WHEREAS, Each named after Henry Wise and established in 1856,
8 both Wise County, Texas, and Wise County, Virginia, celebrated
9 their sesquicentennials in 2006, and Wise County, Texas, has
10 gratefully accepted Wise County, Virginia's, gracious gift of their
11 county flag, thus celebrating their ties across distance and
12 history; and

13 WHEREAS, Wise County is home to industrious and innovative
14 citizens who are preserving their history while working for a
15 prosperous future, and their contributions to the culture,
16 recreation, and economy of this state are truly worthy of
17 recognition; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
19 Legislature hereby recognize February 13, 2007, as Wise County Day
20 and extend to the delegation from Wise County sincere best wishes
21 for an enjoyable and informative stay in Austin.