

By: McCall

H.R. No. 478

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Residents from Collin County are gathering at the
2 State Capitol on February 20, 2007, to celebrate Collin County Day,
3 and this event provides an opportunity to pay tribute to this
4 prosperous area in North Texas; and

5 WHEREAS, Once inhabited by the Caddo Indians, the county is
6 located almost entirely within the state's Blackland Prairie, and
7 this prime farming land began attracting settlers in the early
8 1840s; both the county and its seat, McKinney, were named in honor
9 of pioneer resident Collin McKinney, a signer of the Texas
10 Declaration of Independence; and

11 WHEREAS, Today, Collin County encompasses a portion of the
12 dynamic Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex; it has experienced one of the
13 fastest growth rates in Texas in recent years, and much of its 886
14 square miles has been transformed into a bustling urban area; more
15 than 700,000 people call the county home, with an average of 100 new
16 residents arriving each day; and

17 WHEREAS, The county seat, McKinney, is one of the county's
18 many booming municipalities, boasting a population of 103,000; it
19 offers a host of interesting attractions, including the Collin
20 County Youth Park and Farm Museum, the Collin County History
21 Museum, Bolin Wildlife Exhibit, Chestnut Square Historical Park,
22 and the Heard Natural Science Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary;
23 adjacent to Lake Lavon, McKinney is also home to a number of
24 beautiful outdoor recreation areas, including Wilson Creek Park;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, With a population of more than 253,000, Plano is the
3 largest city in the county and a thriving business center; visitors
4 to this community can enjoy shops and malls with pleasant amenities
5 and a restored downtown square, which features brick sidewalks,
6 turn-of-the-century lampposts, and numerous specialty stores,
7 galleries, and restaurants; and

8 WHEREAS, The city of Allen, home to two especially well-known
9 residents, Olympic gold-medal-winning gymnast Carly Patterson and
10 artist Amanda Dunbar, is yet another fast-growing town; Allen has a
11 population of more than 70,000, and its citizens are dedicated to
12 the development of a quality community with a top-ranked education
13 system, family-oriented residential areas, innovative recreational
14 facilities, and premier business developments; and

15 WHEREAS, The site now occupied by the city of Frisco was once
16 a campground for Native Americans, and a footpath that passed
17 through the area became the "Texas Road," a route for pioneers
18 traveling between the Red River and Central Texas; after the
19 arrival of the railroad, Frisco became a commercial hub for farmers
20 and ranchers in the area; it now has 85,000 residents and is the
21 site of numerous corporate offices as well as minor league baseball
22 and junior league hockey teams; and

23 WHEREAS, Other communities add much to Collin County's
24 allure; Wylie, with a population of 33,000, is a family-oriented
25 town that is home to the Ballard Street Cafe, an eatery famed for
26 its chicken fried steak; Celina has gained statewide fame for its
27 Bobcats high school football team, which has claimed seven state

1 titles; true to its name, the town of Prosper has grown larger in
2 recent years, and its residents are especially proud of its skilled
3 firefighters and paramedics, whose courage and quick action have
4 saved lives; Princeton was the site of one of the county's
5 interesting historical episodes, when it was the site of a
6 prisoner-of-war camp for captured German soldiers during World War
7 II; and

8 WHEREAS, In addition, citizens from the communities of Anna,
9 Blue Ridge, Fairview, Farmersville, Josephine, Lavon, Lucas,
10 Murphy, Nevada, New Hope, and Parker, along with parts of Dallas,
11 Garland, Richardson, Royse City, and Sachse, whose city limits
12 extend into the county, have played an important part in preserving
13 Collin County's proud heritage and contributing to its flourishing,
14 diversified economy, and they may indeed look forward to a bright
15 and promising future; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
17 Legislature hereby recognize February 20, 2007, as Collin County
18 Day at the State Capitol and extend sincere best wishes to all those
19 Collin County residents who have traveled to Austin for this event.