

By: Christian

H.R. No. 1052

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Shelby County are gathering in
2 Austin on March 27, 2007, to celebrate Shelby County Day at the
3 State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, This East Texas region of deep forest and rich
5 bottomlands has been inhabited for thousands of years; the Caddo
6 tribe were the earliest recorded inhabitants, and John Latham, who
7 came in 1818, was the first Anglo settler; and

8 WHEREAS, While still under Mexican rule, the region was
9 organized as Tenehaw Municipality, with Nashville as the largest
10 town; several founding fathers of Texas came from the town,
11 including two signers of the Texas Declaration of Independence,
12 Sidney O. Pennington and William C. Crawford, and John M. Bradley, a
13 hero of the Texas struggle for independence; and

14 WHEREAS, In 1836 the Republic of Texas established Shelby
15 County, naming it for Isaac Shelby, a hero of the American
16 Revolution, and fixed the county seat as Nashville, renaming it as
17 Shelbyville; an election in 1866 moved the county seat to Center,
18 and when the election results were disputed, Judge R. L. Parker
19 moved the county records from Shelbyville to Center in the dead of
20 night and made the change permanent; and

21 WHEREAS, Once a thriving center for cotton and corn
22 production, Shelby County today is a leader in poultry and egg
23 production and processing, timber, and the manufacturing of wood
24 products; and

1 WHEREAS, Center, the county seat, is home to the Shelby
2 County Museum; its picturesque county courthouse, completed in
3 1885, was designed and built in the style of an Irish castle by
4 architect John Joseph Emmett Gibson, an Irish immigrant; residents
5 and visitors alike enjoy such annual festivals as the What-a-Melon
6 Festival in July and the East Texas Poultry Festival every October;
7 other highly anticipated annual events include the Tenaha
8 Independence Day Celebration, Frontier Days in Timpson every July,
9 and the Shelby County Sheriff's Posse PRCA Rodeo; and

10 WHEREAS, The county also offers many fine opportunities for
11 recreation, including Toledo Bend Reservoir, the fifth largest
12 man-made reservoir in the United States, and part of the vast Sabine
13 National Forest, that covers more than 160,000 acres on the border
14 between Texas and Louisiana; and

15 WHEREAS, This unique and scenic county celebrates its
16 colorful past as it looks forward to a prosperous future; as the
17 Gateway to the Texas Forest Country, Shelby County is one of the
18 treasures of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
20 Legislature hereby recognize March 27, 2007, as Shelby County Day
21 at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation best
22 wishes for an informative and enjoyable stay in Austin.