

By: Callegari

H.R. No. 1446

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud citizens of Katy are gathering in Austin to
2 celebrate Katy Day at the State Capitol on April 12, 2007; and

3 WHEREAS, Situated on the coastal prairie among the grasslands
4 and bayous, the community was originally known as Cane Island; it
5 was first settled in the 1870s as a farming community, with
6 residents growing primarily cotton, peanuts, and corn until 1901
7 when William Eule introduced rice farming; the town came to be
8 called Katy, after the depot of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas
9 Railroad (the MKT)--or perhaps after the wife of a saloonkeeper;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, The discovery of natural gas in 1934 changed the
12 fortunes of area residents, who profited from the size of the field
13 and the nearness of Houston's refineries; the city was incorporated
14 in 1945 and today is an important rail and agricultural center; and

15 WHEREAS, The Katy Independent School District is one of the
16 fastest-growing districts in the state and includes 27 elementary
17 schools, 10 junior highs, 6 high schools, and a career technology
18 center; one to three computers are available in every classroom,
19 and the entire district is linked with fiber optic cable; student
20 achievement surpasses statewide levels on every test; and

21 WHEREAS, Katy Heritage Park includes the Wright Museum and
22 the restored post office; vintage farming equipment as well as
23 early photographs and antiques are on display at the Katy Heritage
24 Museum; the old MKT Depot has been restored on its new site in Katy

1 City Park; and

2 WHEREAS, Katy's Rice Harvest Festival every October
3 celebrates the town's agricultural heritage with more than 300 food
4 and craft booths, a carnival, and live entertainment on two stages;
5 the Folk Life Festival at the Kenneth D. Welch Outdoor Learning
6 Center enables visitors to experience frontier life firsthand; one
7 of the largest school rodeos in the state, the Katy ISD FFA
8 Livestock Show and Rodeo attracts some of the finest rodeo riders in
9 the country; and

10 WHEREAS, Celebrating the rich traditions of its small-town
11 past, Katy is preparing for a dynamic future, and its citizens are
12 to be congratulated for their contributions to the economy and
13 culture of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
15 Legislature hereby recognize April 12, 2007, as Katy Day at the
16 State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation best wishes for
17 an enjoyable and informative stay in Austin.