

By: Branch

H.R. No. 1517

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The 21st annual Texas Scottish Festival & Highland
2 Games are being held at Maverick Stadium, on the campus of The
3 University of Texas at Arlington, June 1-3, 2007; and

4 WHEREAS, One of the largest Scottish gatherings in the
5 country, this outstanding family event offers the public a chance
6 to enjoy traditional Scottish music and athletic competitions, as
7 well as a golf tournament and other Scottish-themed activities; and

8 WHEREAS, Scots and people of Scottish descent have long made
9 notable contributions to the exploration and development of this
10 state; in the early 1830s, Thomas Drummond, a native Scot,
11 collected extensively between the coast and the Edwards Plateau;
12 his botanical and zoological collections were later distributed
13 internationally to a number of museums and other institutions; and

14 WHEREAS, Among the first northern Europeans to settle in
15 Texas, Scots and their descendants composed more than 40 percent of
16 Stephen F. Austin's Old Three Hundred and predominated among the
17 more than 600 families in Robertson's Colony; their number included
18 such heroes of the Texas Revolution as Sam Houston, David Crockett,
19 and the empresario Sterling Clack Robertson, who signed both the
20 Texas Declaration of Independence and the constitution of the
21 Republic of Texas; four Scottish-born soldiers fought with the
22 Texans at the Alamo, and one of them, John MacGregor, is reported to
23 have rallied his comrades with his bagpipes during the siege; and

24 WHEREAS, After Texas became a republic and then a state,

1 Scots and their descendants continued to make their mark; some who
2 achieved prominence were George Cupples, a physician, Jesse
3 Chisholm, a frontier trader, interpreter, and trailblazer, and
4 Edmund Duncan Montgomery, a scientist and philosopher; in addition,
5 Scottish capitalists financed the establishment of vast cattle
6 spreads and also the building of the present State Capitol, which
7 was constructed with the help of Scottish stonemasons; and

8 WHEREAS, Today, organizations around the state promote
9 fellowship among Scottish Texans, as well as such popular
10 traditions as Scottish dance and highland games; the state even has
11 its own official plaid, the Texas Bluebonnet Tartan; and

12 WHEREAS, Scots and their descendants have made an indelible
13 imprint on the Lone Star State, and the Texas Scottish Festival &
14 Highland Games provide a fitting opportunity to salute their myriad
15 contributions; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
17 Legislature hereby recognize June 2007 as Scottish Heritage Month
18 and extend to all who work to preserve the best of the Scottish
19 legacy in Texas sincere appreciation and best wishes.