

By: Cook of Colorado

H.R. No. 1757

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Bastrop are celebrating the 175th
2 anniversary of their city on June 9, 2007; and

3 WHEREAS, In 1804, when the Tonkawa and the Comanche still
4 lived and hunted in the area, the Spanish governor of the region,
5 Manuel Antonio Cordero y Bustamante, established a fort where the
6 road between San Antonio and Nacogdoches crossed the Colorado
7 River; the fort was called Puesta del Colorado; and

8 WHEREAS, At about the same time, a fugitive embezzler from
9 the Netherlands named Philip Hendrik Nering Bogel who was passing
10 himself off as "the Baron of Bastrop" settled in San Antonio; in
11 1823, the "Baron" obtained permission to set up a German colony on
12 the site of the old fort; and

13 WHEREAS, The colony failed, but four years later Stephen F.
14 Austin located a settlement of 100 families on the site; on June 8,
15 1832, the town was officially platted and named Bastrop; and

16 WHEREAS, Renamed two years later as Mina after a Mexican
17 hero, the town had grown to 400 residents and was the business and
18 political center for the region by the time it was incorporated and
19 renamed Bastrop on December 18, 1837; and

20 WHEREAS, With the Lost Pine Forest nearby, Bastrop became a
21 center for the lumber industry; when Austin became capital of the
22 Texas Republic in 1839, Bastrop supplied the timber for the city;
23 over the years, Bastrop has continued to depend on timber as well as
24 upon petroleum, cotton, pecans, and coal as mainstays of its

1 economy; and

2 WHEREAS, As one of the oldest and most historic towns in the
3 Lone Star State, Bastrop has 131 houses and buildings, many of them
4 recently restored, listed on the National Historic Register; among
5 the highlights are the Victorian-style Bastrop Opera House, which
6 was built in 1889, the Bastrop County Historical Society Museum,
7 housed in the 1850 Cornelson-Fehr house, and Bastrop's picturesque
8 Main Street, which features antique shops, specialty stores, and
9 restaurants in century-old buildings; the Iron Bridge over the
10 Colorado River was built in 1890 and has been converted to a park
11 with picnic tables, benches, and walkways; and

12 WHEREAS, Celebrating their rich and colorful past as they
13 look forward to a bright future, the people of Bastrop may take
14 special pride in their city's central place in the history and
15 culture of Texas; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
17 Legislature hereby congratulate the city of Bastrop on the 175th
18 anniversary of its founding and extend to its citizens best wishes
19 for a fine birthday party and for their continued prosperity.