

By: Hilderbran

H.R. No. 2634

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Proud citizens of Menard are celebrating the 250th  
2 anniversary of the founding of the Presidio de San Saba and the  
3 Mission Santa Cruz de San Saba with a series of events during the  
4 week of June 9-16, 2007; and

5           WHEREAS, Originally called Presidio San Luis de las  
6 Amarillas, the Presidio de San Saba was the largest fort in Spanish  
7 Texas; built in 1757 through the combined efforts of Spanish  
8 soldiers, priests, and Apache laborers, it was intended to protect  
9 the Mission Santa Cruz de San Saba, which lay four miles away on the  
10 San Saba River; and

11           WHEREAS, On March 16, 1758, the mission was destroyed during  
12 an assault by 2,000 Comanche, Caddo, and Wichita warriors; the  
13 presidio was abandoned the same year, but remained important over  
14 the years as an Indian camp and a landmark for passing expeditions;  
15 and

16           WHEREAS, This significant piece of Texas history is overseen  
17 by the Presidio de San Saba Restoration Board, which, along with the  
18 Texas Archaeological Society and Texas Tech University, is working  
19 to preserve and restore the presidio; during the weeklong  
20 celebration, more than 500 people, including archaeologists,  
21 students from Texas Tech, and public school teachers and students,  
22 will participate in excavation activities at the presidio site; and

23           WHEREAS, Various cultural and educational activities will  
24 mark the occasion as well, including a pilgrimage walk,

1 reenactments, nightly historical presentations, and a community  
2 dinner; a 100-mile "Tour de Forts" bicycle ride will be held, two  
3 new murals will be dedicated, and a copy of a famous historical  
4 painting of the Mission de San Saba will be on display; and

5 WHEREAS, This noteworthy commemorative and educational event  
6 demonstrates the commitment of its participants to preserving an  
7 important part of Texas history, and the exemplary actions of all  
8 involved merit special commendation; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas  
10 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the commemoration of the 250th  
11 anniversary of the founding of the Presidio de San Saba and the  
12 Mission Santa Cruz de San Saba and extend to the celebration's  
13 organizers and participants best wishes for an enjoyable and  
14 meaningful week; and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
16 prepared for the Presidio de San Saba Restoration Board as an  
17 expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.