

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 30

WHEREAS, By the wisdom and vision of the Hood County Commissioners Court and because of the continued efforts of John Helsley, the Lake Granbury Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Fort Worth Western Railroad Company, the rural rail district concept was introduced to the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, The Cen-Tex Rural Rail District was created in 1991 for Hood and Johnson Counties and became the first official rural rail district in the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, The Texas Alliance of Rail Districts, a Texas nonprofit organization, was created in 2005 to continue the efforts of rural rail district development in the Lone Star State; and

WHEREAS, Railway transportation has historically played an important role in the development of the Lone Star State by providing important links between the rural and urban areas of our state and by connecting Texas with other parts of the country; and

WHEREAS, Communities, regardless of their size, depend on viable transportation options to ship and receive raw materials, manufactured goods, and agricultural products, which helps support area businesses and economic development efforts; and

WHEREAS, Since the development of the Cen-Tex Rural Rail District in 1991, 40 rural rail districts have been created in the Lone Star State, encompassing 85 counties; and

WHEREAS, Rural rail districts in Texas have been responsible for preserving hundreds of miles of rail likely to be abandoned, planning new rail lines, and attracting new industry to the Lone Star State; and

WHEREAS, Communities throughout the state have been the beneficiaries of the rural rail district effort, which began in Hood County, Texas; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 80th Legislature, hereby commend Hood County for its dedication to rural rail transportation; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Averitt

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on January 24, 2007.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate