

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Residents of Mason County, an area noted for its
2 colorful history and scenic beauty, celebrated the 150th
3 anniversary of the establishment of their county in 2008; and

4 WHEREAS, This pastoral corner of the Texas Hill Country was
5 originally a hunting ground for the Lipan Apache and Comanche
6 peoples; in the 1840s, German colonists from Fredericksburg and New
7 Braunfels began to settle the region; and

8 WHEREAS, Fort Mason was established in 1851 to protect the
9 new settlers from Indian attacks; on the eve of the Civil War,
10 Robert E. Lee, then a colonel commanding the 2nd Cavalry Regiment,
11 made his headquarters at Fort Mason; it was his last command under
12 the United States flag before he resigned to join the Confederate
13 Army; and

14 WHEREAS, Mason County was created by the Texas Legislature on
15 January 22, 1858, and three years later the town of Mason, adjacent
16 to the fort, was chosen as the county seat; cattle ranching quickly
17 became the foundation of the county's economy; disputes over
18 rustling, as well as ethnic tensions, led to a feud known as the
19 Mason County War that lasted from 1875 to 1877; and

20 WHEREAS, While ranching continues to thrive in Mason County,
21 the area's popularity as a hunting and fishing destination has
22 added another dimension to the local economy; visitors can also
23 witness the flight of millions of Mexican free-tailed bats from the
24 Eckert James River Cave on summer evenings or explore the charming

1 county seat; in addition to its architecture, shops, galleries, and
2 restaurants, the town of Mason boasts a prominent literary
3 association as the home of Fred Gipson, who wrote the book *Old*
4 *Yeller*; and

5 WHEREAS, The citizens of Mason County are justifiably proud
6 of their rich heritage, and it is a privilege to recognize this
7 significant milestone in the history of this unique area of the Lone
8 Star State; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
10 Legislature hereby commemorate the 150th anniversary of the
11 founding of Mason County.

Hilderbran

Straus	Gattis	Menendez
Allen	Geren	Merritt
Alonzo	Giddings	Miklos
Alvarado	Gonzales	Miller of Comal
Anchia	Gonzalez Toureilles	Miller of Erath
Anderson	Guillen	Moody
Aycock	Gutierrez	Morrison
Berman	Hamilton	Naishtat
Bohac	Hancock	Oliveira
Bolton	Hardcastle	Olivo
Bonnen	Harless	Orr
Branch	Harper-Brown	Ortiz, Jr.
Brown of Kaufman	Hartnett	Otto
Brown of Brazos	Heflin	Parker
Burnam	Hernandez	Patrick
Button	Herrero	Paxton
Callegari	Hilderbran	Pena
Castro	Hochberg	Phillips
Chavez	Hodge	Pickett
Chisum	Homer	Pierson
Christian	Hopson	Pitts
Cohen	Howard of Fort Bend	Quintanilla
Coleman	Howard of Travis	Raymond
Cook	Hughes	Riddle
Corte	Hunter	Rios Ybarra
Crabb	Isett	Ritter
Craddick	Jackson	Rodriguez
Creighton	Jones	Rose
Crownover	Keffer	Sheffield
Darby	Kent	Shelton
Davis of Harris	King of Parker	Smith of Tarrant
Davis of Dallas	King of Taylor	Smith of Harris
Deshotel	King of Zavala	Smithee
Driver	Kleinschmidt	Solomons
Dukes	Kolkhorst	Strama
Dunnam	Kuempel	Swinford
Dutton	Laubenberg	Taylor
Edwards	Legler	Thibaut
Eiland	Leibowitz	Thompson
Eissler	Lewis	Truitt
Elkins	Lucio III	Turner of Tarrant
England	Madden	Turner of Harris
Farabee	Maldonado	Vaught
Farias	Mallory Caraway	Veasey
Farrar	Marquez	Villarreal
Fletcher	Martinez	Vo
Flores	Martinez Fischer	Walle
Flynn	McCall	Weber
Frost	McClendon	Woolley
Gallego	McReynolds	Zerwas

H.R. No. 24

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 24 was adopted by the House on
February 26, 2009, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House