

By: Hilderbran

H.R. No. 35

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Residents of Coleman County celebrated the
2 sesquicentennial of the establishment of their county throughout
3 2008; and

4 WHEREAS, Situated in west central Texas, Coleman County
5 traces its origins to 1856, when the U.S. Army built Camp Colorado;
6 the frontier garrison served as the first county seat for Coleman
7 County, which was formed on February 1, 1858, and named after Robert
8 M. Coleman, a signer of the Texas Declaration of Independence and an
9 aide-de-camp to General Sam Houston at the Battle of San Jacinto;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Prominent citizens organized a county government in
12 1875 and the next year chose a more central site for the county
13 seat, located close to the bustling commerce of the Western Trail;
14 the survey of the new town of Coleman was barely complete before
15 doctors, lawyers, merchants, ranchers, and others were clamoring to
16 buy lots; agriculture flourished after 1900, though the county
17 later struggled with drought, and the city of Coleman was forced to
18 import water; natural gas and oil were discovered before 1920, and
19 the industries grew, while farming was hit hard by the Great
20 Depression; and

21 WHEREAS, Coleman County's economy today includes limestone,
22 high-grade glass sand, and the manufacturing of products ranging
23 from saddles to recreational vehicles; moreover, agribusiness,
24 oil, natural gas, and ranching remain important, and Coleman ranks

1 as the fourth-largest wool-producing county in Texas; tourism
2 thrives in the region as well, with hunters drawn to the area by
3 bountiful deer, turkey, ducks, quail, and dove; six major lakes
4 provide excellent fishing and recreation; and

5 WHEREAS, Visitors to Coleman County further enjoy exploring
6 the ruins of Camp Colorado, the ghost town of Trickham, and a
7 pioneer cabin museum at the foot of Santa Anna Mountain; numerous
8 markers commemorate a fascinating history that includes one of the
9 first female sheriffs in the United States, Emma Susan Daugherty
10 Banister, who was appointed to complete her husband's term on his
11 death in August 1918; and

12 WHEREAS, Popular annual events include a PRCA rodeo, one of
13 the nation's largest county livestock shows, Santa Anna Funtier
14 Days, and the Fiesta de la Paloma and dove cook-off; the county
15 began observance of its 150th anniversary on February 1, 2008, when
16 the post office issued a commemorative cancellation stamp; and

17 WHEREAS, In honoring Coleman County's first 150 years,
18 citizens pay tribute to the exceptional Texans who came before them
19 and share their pride in a home that offers natural beauty and a
20 neighborly spirit; now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
22 Legislature hereby commemorate the sesquicentennial of Coleman
23 County and extend to its residents best wishes for the future.