

By: Gonzalez Toureilles

H.R. No. 189

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Citizens from Karnes County are celebrating their  
2 community's contributions to the Lone Star State with a special day  
3 at the State Capitol on January 29, 2009; and

4 WHEREAS, Located in the Rio Grande plain region, Karnes  
5 County was first inhabited by hunter-gatherer Indians of the  
6 Coahuiltecan linguistic family, thousands of years before the  
7 arrival of the first European settlers; eventually named for Henry  
8 Wax Karnes, a Texas revolutionary war hero, the county was  
9 officially organized on February 4, 1854, when the legislature  
10 passed a measure recognizing its establishment; and

11 WHEREAS, This fine Texas county prospered with the arrival of  
12 the railroads in the mid-1880s, which provided improved access to  
13 markets and brought the beginnings of the diversified farming,  
14 livestock, and ranching economy that has supported the county ever  
15 since; and

16 WHEREAS, Today, the region's leading industries include not  
17 only farming and ranching, but also oil and gas production, uranium  
18 mining and milling, guar processing, and fiberglass products; and

19 WHEREAS, Karnes County is home to Panna Maria, the nation's  
20 oldest Polish settlement, and the historic Old Helena, a restored  
21 courthouse; additional attractions in the area include the church  
22 of Czestochowa and various annual events, such as the Lonesome Dove  
23 Fest held in Karnes City and community fairs across the region;  
24 Kenedy, Falls City, Gillett, Hobson, and Runge are just a few of the

1 unique towns that may be found inside the county's borders; and

2 WHEREAS, Residents of Karnes County are working to preserve  
3 the character and history of their vibrant region while building an  
4 exciting and prosperous future, and it is a pleasure to honor them  
5 on this special day; now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
7 Legislature hereby recognize January 29, 2009, as Karnes County Day  
8 at the State Capitol and extend to those present today sincere best  
9 wishes for an enjoyable visit to Austin.