

By: King of Parker

H.R. No. 293

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Residents of Wise County are visiting Austin to
2 celebrate Wise County Day at the State Capitol on February 10, 2009;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Located in the northwestern part of the state, Wise
5 County has a varied terrain, much of which has proven to be fertile
6 farmland; the first known inhabitants of the area in historic times
7 were the Wichita, followed by groups of Caddo, Delaware, and
8 Kichai; Anglo settlers arrived in the 1850s, and on January 23,
9 1856, the county was carved out of Cooke County by legislative act
10 and named in honor of Henry A. Wise, a U.S. congressman from
11 Virginia who had supported the annexation of Texas; at the same time
12 as it created Wise County, the legislature decreed that its county
13 seat be established within five miles of the county's center, and
14 two years later that new community became known as Decatur, after
15 the naval hero Stephen Decatur; and

16 WHEREAS, The eastern fork of the Chisholm Trail passed near
17 Decatur during the latter half of the 19th century, and the town
18 prospered as a shipping point and market for local farmers; today,
19 it is a center for petroleum production and clothing and glass
20 manufacture, as well as marketing and processing for Wise County
21 agribusiness; visitors are drawn to Decatur by such historic
22 attractions as the Waggoner Mansion, the Old Stone Prison, the Wise
23 County Heritage Museum, and the pink granite Wise County
24 Courthouse, which was completed in 1896; and

1 WHEREAS, Wise County is home to a variety of recreational
2 opportunities provided by Lake Bridgeport, Eagle Mountain Lake, and
3 the Lyndon B. Johnson National Grasslands; in addition, area
4 residents celebrate their heritage with the annual Butterfield
5 Stage Days Festival in May and the Chisholm Trail Days and Western
6 Heritage Festival in June; and

7 WHEREAS, The citizens of Wise County may take justifiable
8 pride in their corner of Texas and know that it has contributed
9 immensely to the development and vitality of the Lone Star State;
10 now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
12 Legislature hereby recognize February 10, 2009, as Wise County Day
13 at the State Capitol and extend best wishes to the visiting
14 delegation for an informative and enjoyable stay in Austin.