

By: Harper-Brown

H.R. No. 401

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Distinguished citizens of Irving are gathering on
2 February 17, 2009, to celebrate Irving Day at the State Capitol; and

3 WHEREAS, Originally a settlement known as Gorbit and then as
4 Kit, the city was renamed in 1902, possibly for the author
5 Washington Irving; it soon became a center for cotton farming,
6 dairy farming, and poultry production in North Texas; and

7 WHEREAS, Irving began its period of rapid growth in the
8 mid-20th century; the Plymouth Park Shopping Center opened in 1955,
9 the University of Dallas in 1956, and Irving Community Hospital in
10 1964; the creation of the Las Colinas and Valley Ranch
11 master-planned business and residential communities contributed
12 further to the city's growth, and from 1971 to 2008, the city was
13 the home of "America's Team," the Dallas Cowboys; and

14 WHEREAS, Today, with a population of nearly 210,000, Irving
15 boasts more than 10,000 companies, including the headquarters of
16 ExxonMobil, Kimberly-Clark, the Commercial Metals Company, and the
17 Fluor Corporation; over 45 companies in the Fortune 500 have a
18 presence in the city, including Amazon.com, Northrop Grumman,
19 Verizon, Microsoft, and many others; and

20 WHEREAS, Irving's educational and cultural resources make it
21 a fine place to live and work; the University of Dallas and North
22 Lake College offer ample opportunities for higher education, and
23 the city is home to the Irving Arts Center, as well as to three
24 symphony orchestras and two award-winning theater companies; and

1 WHEREAS, Residents and visitors alike may delight in the
2 gondolas at Mandalay Canal and the stunning sculpture known as the
3 Mustangs of Las Colinas, with its associated museum; Irving is also
4 home to the headquarters of the Boy Scouts of America, and the BSA's
5 National Scouting Museum tells the history of scouting and
6 possesses the world's largest collection of original Norman
7 Rockwell scouting artwork; the HP Byron Nelson Golf Championship is
8 an annual PGA Tour event; and

9 WHEREAS, Benefiting greatly from the farsighted leadership
10 of Mayor Herbert A. Gears and the members of the city council,
11 Thomas D. Spink, Beth Van Duyne, Allan E. Meagher, Lewis Patrick,
12 Rose Cannaday, Rick Stopfer, Sam Smith, and Joe Philipp, Irving is a
13 forward-looking and vibrant city, and its creative and hardworking
14 citizens are to be commended for their contributions to the
15 prosperity of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
17 Legislature hereby recognize February 17, 2009, as Irving Day at
18 the State Capitol and extend to its mayor, city council members,
19 corporate executives, chamber representatives, and other citizens
20 present today a warm welcome to Austin.