

By: Pitts

H.R. No. 503

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Hill County are gathering in
2 Austin to celebrate Hill County Day at the State Capitol on February
3 18, 2009; and

4 WHEREAS, This scenic region of prairie and gently rolling
5 hills east of the Brazos River was first inhabited 700 years ago; in
6 the early 1700s hunting camps were established by the Wichita
7 people, and in the 1820s and 1830s Indians of the Comanche and
8 Taovaya tribes moved through the area; and

9 WHEREAS, Hill County was established by the state legislature
10 on February 7, 1853, and named for Dr. George Washington Hill, the
11 secretary of war for the Republic of Texas under President Sam
12 Houston; Hillsboro was founded in 1853 as the county seat; and

13 WHEREAS, Cattle and cotton were the mainstays of the economy
14 in the early days, and by the early 1900s the county was the
15 second-largest cotton-producing county in the nation; and

16 WHEREAS, Hill County has grown with the changing times while
17 still maintaining the charm and friendliness of a small rural
18 county; the county's courthouse, which was nearly destroyed by fire
19 in 1993, was restored to its 1890s grandeur and continues to
20 function as the hub for all county business; Hill College provides
21 for the educational needs of the county's citizens and further
22 serves the county with its Performing Arts Series; the campus also
23 houses the Harold B. Simpson History Center, home of the Texas
24 Heritage Museum with its famous Audie Murphy exhibit and the

1 Historical Research Center with its 10,000-volume library on the
2 Civil War; and

3 WHEREAS, Recreational opportunities for the county's
4 residents and visitors are provided by Lake Whitney State Park, a
5 prime destination for camping, hiking, boating, and bird-watching,
6 with over 194 species of birds spotted so far; additionally, Hill
7 County native Willie Nelson, born in Abbott, has opened Willie's
8 Place at Carl's Corner; and

9 WHEREAS, Each year the communities of Hill County host a
10 number of gala events such as the Hill County Fair and the Go
11 Texan/Cotton Pickin' Fair in Hillsboro, Pioneer Days in Whitney,
12 and the Hubbard Trade Days, all of which showcase the county's
13 hospitality, agricultural heritage, and scenic beauty; and

14 WHEREAS, The residents of Hill County are justifiably proud
15 of their heritage and the many qualities that make their county an
16 outstanding place in which to live, work, and raise a family, and it
17 is most fitting that Hill County be honored on this special day;
18 now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
20 Legislature hereby recognize February 18, 2009, as Hill County Day
21 at the State Capitol and extend to its citizens sincere best wishes
22 for an informative and enjoyable stay in Austin.