

By: Heflin

H.R. No. 504

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Cotton has ranked as one of the most important crops
2 in Texas for a century and a half, and in 1997, the 75th Legislature
3 named it the official fiber and fabric of the Lone Star State; and

4 WHEREAS, Introduced to Texas by Spanish missionaries, cotton
5 soared in production between 1850 and 1900, when it reached more
6 than 3.4 million bales; contributing to the expansion were the
7 opening of new lands for cultivation, the extension of the
8 railroad, and the influx of thousands of immigrants from the Deep
9 South and from Europe; and

10 WHEREAS, The State of Texas has been the home of a number of
11 major innovations in the cotton industry; Robert S. Munger
12 developed an automated system ginning process in Mexia in 1884, and
13 in 1980 the country's first high-volume instrument cotton-classing
14 office opened in Lamesa; and

15 WHEREAS, Approximately one-third of all the cotton harvested
16 in the United States is grown in Texas, and the state usually ranks
17 first among all the states in cotton production; and

18 WHEREAS, The history of Texas cannot be told without taking
19 into account the enormous role that cotton has played in the
20 development of the state, and the crop continues to provide the
21 livelihood of thousands of Texans; now, therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
23 Legislature hereby recognize March 3, 2009, as Cotton Day at the
24 State Capitol and extend to all those associated with the industry

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1 and who are present here today sincere best wishes for an enjoyable
2 and memorable visit.