

By: Anderson

H.R. No. 552

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Waco Day is taking place at the State Capitol on
2 February 24, 2009, and this occasion provides a welcome opportunity
3 to pay tribute to this notable Texas community; and

4 WHEREAS, Founded in 1849, Waco played a central role in the
5 development of the Lone Star State in the 1800s, serving as a center
6 for cotton farming, as a stopping point for the cowboys on the
7 Chisholm Trail, and as a thriving transportation and marketing hub;
8 by the mid-1900s, it had grown into an important manufacturing
9 center, and in recent decades, it has seen diverse businesses such
10 as health care and aerospace make significant contributions to the
11 prosperity of its citizens; tourism, too, is important to Waco,
12 with favorite attractions such as the Texas Sports Hall of Fame and
13 Texas Rangers Hall of Fame and Museum drawing visitors to the city;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Throughout its history, education has been a key
16 element in Waco's success; Baylor University has been part of the
17 city since 1887, and Texas State Technical College and McLennan
18 Community College have further boosted the town's reputation as a
19 place of learning, research, and innovation; and

20 WHEREAS, A fitting symbol of the city's forward-thinking
21 attitude is the new home of the Greater Waco Chamber of Commerce,
22 which opened in June 2008; specifically designed to qualify for
23 gold-level certification from the U.S. Green Building Council, it
24 incorporates a range of innovative features to create an

1 environmentally sensitive landmark that is serving as a model for
2 additional sustainable construction projects; and

3 WHEREAS, Waco's advantageous business conditions are
4 spurring economic development in various ways; in 2008 alone,
5 numerous companies initiated new endeavors in the city or expanded
6 existing operations; moreover, the dynamic business community in
7 the greater Waco area has developed a strategic plan for future
8 economic advancement and is focusing on attracting a number of
9 target industries to the city; and

10 WHEREAS, Even as they look optimistically to the future, area
11 residents still take pleasure in the town's enduring attractions,
12 including its high quality of life and the scenic surroundings of
13 Lake Waco and other pleasant cityscapes; these features further
14 demonstrate the appeal of the Waco community, which is continuing
15 to make vital contributions to the Lone Star State, as it has for
16 160 years; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
18 Legislature hereby recognize February 24, 2009, as Waco Day at the
19 State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation best wishes for
20 an enjoyable and productive visit to Austin.