

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Residents of Gonzales are traveling to Austin on  
2 March 17, 2009, to celebrate Gonzales Day at the State Capitol, and  
3 in special observance of the event, students in the second, third,  
4 and fourth grade choir will be performing in the Capitol Rotunda;  
5 and

6           WHEREAS, Settled in 1825, the town was named for Rafael  
7 Gonzales, the governor of Coahuila and Texas; the first battle of  
8 the Texas Revolution was fought in Gonzales in October 1835, when  
9 Mexican dragoons demanded that the Texan garrison surrender their  
10 cannon, and the Texans responded, "Come and take it!"; the battle of  
11 Gonzales was fought and the war for Texas independence was begun;  
12 and

13           WHEREAS, About a week after the battle, Stephen F. Austin  
14 took command of the volunteer army that had concentrated at  
15 Gonzales, and in February of the following year, the Gonzales  
16 Ranging Company of Mounted Volunteers rode to the aid of William  
17 Barret Travis and his men at the Alamo, where 32 of the Gonzales  
18 contingent gave their lives; and

19           WHEREAS, In 1837, the Republic of Texas incorporated Gonzales  
20 and established Gonzales County; the post office opened in January  
21 1839 and the city council held its first meeting in March, and in  
22 1853 the Gonzales *Inquirer* was established; still operating, the  
23 newspaper comes out twice a week and is one of the oldest  
24 continuously publishing community newspapers in the state; and

1           WHEREAS, Today, Gonzales is a leader in Texas agribusiness as  
2 a processing and shipping center for local beef, poultry, and pecan  
3 producers and is actively planning for its future growth and  
4 prosperity through the Gonzales Economic Development Corporation;  
5 preserving the town's legacy as the "Lexington of Texas," the  
6 Gonzales Memorial Museum honors the men who died at the Alamo and  
7 contains the "Come and take it" cannon, and the lives of early  
8 settlers are evoked at Gonzales Pioneer Village Living History  
9 Center; and

10           WHEREAS, Visitors and residents alike enjoy the many annual  
11 events in the area, including Courthouse Trade Days, the First Shot  
12 Cook Off, and the Come and Take It Festival every October, and J. B.  
13 Wells Park is the site of several rodeos throughout the year; and

14           WHEREAS, Celebrating their rich history as they work to build  
15 a bright future, the citizens of Gonzales may take great pride in  
16 their unique place in Texas history and in the contributions they  
17 continue to make to the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

18           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
19 Legislature hereby recognize March 17, 2009, as Gonzales Day at the  
20 State Capitol and extend to the delegation sincere best wishes for a  
21 productive and enjoyable visit to Austin.

Kuempel

H.R. No. 808

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 808 was adopted by the House on March 17, 2009, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House