

By: Morrison

H.R. No. 929

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Citizens of Jackson County are gathering in Austin
2 on March 24, 2009, to celebrate Jackson County Day at the State
3 Capitol, and this occasion provides a welcome opportunity to honor
4 the history and achievements of this notable area of the Lone Star
5 State; and

6 WHEREAS, Located along the Gulf of Mexico, this part of the
7 coastal prairie was once inhabited by the Karankawa people, and it
8 is thought that the early European explorers Cabeza de Vaca and La
9 Salle visited the area; in the 1820s, a number of the "Old 300"
10 families in Stephen F. Austin's first colony arrived, and the
11 communities they founded became known as the Alabama Settlement
12 because so many of the new arrivals had previously resided in that
13 state; and

14 WHEREAS, The area played a central role in the Texas
15 Revolution, serving as a training ground for Texan forces and
16 suffering destruction at the hands of the Mexican Army; after
17 independence was won in 1836, Jackson County was one of the original
18 counties formed in the newly established republic; and

19 WHEREAS, Cattle ranching and farming became the backbone of
20 the local economy in the mid-1800s, and these businesses have
21 remained important to the county until the present, with rice,
22 corn, and cotton being prominent crops; moreover, oil and natural
23 gas production have employed many area residents since reserves
24 were discovered in the 1930s; and

1 WHEREAS, The town of Edna was established in the 1880s as a
2 stop on a new railroad that was built through the coastal region; it
3 quickly eclipsed the existing county seat, Texana, and in 1883,
4 Edna became the center of government operations; other communities
5 in the county include Francitas, Ganado, LaSalle, La Ward, Lolita,
6 and Vanderbilt; and

7 WHEREAS, Encompassing Lake Texana and Lavaca Bay, Jackson
8 County is a great place for boating, fishing, and camping, and these
9 activities draw many people to sites such as the Brackenridge
10 Plantation Park and Campground and Lake Texana State Park; hunting
11 and bird-watching are also popular, and visitors can learn about
12 local history at the Texana Museum and Old Jail House in Edna; and

13 WHEREAS, Throughout its history, Jackson County has made
14 important contributions to the greatness of the Lone Star State,
15 and its hardworking citizens may take great pride in the county's
16 rich heritage and bountiful resources; now, therefore, be it

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