

By: Gallego

H.R. No. 1136

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Culberson County are gathering in  
2 Austin to celebrate Culberson County Day at the State Capitol on  
3 March 31, 2009; and

4 WHEREAS, Situated among the rugged, scenic mountains of the  
5 Trans-Pecos region of West Texas, the county was originally home to  
6 the fierce Mescalero Apaches; in 1859, a cavalry outpost was  
7 established at the Van Horn Wells, one of the few reliable sources  
8 of water in the area; the last Indian battle in the State of Texas  
9 was fought in the region in 1881, at the mouth of Bass Canyon in the  
10 Sierra Diablo mountains; and

11 WHEREAS, The town of Van Horn was founded in the late 1870s,  
12 and in 1881 it became a stop on the Texas and Pacific Railway; and

13 WHEREAS, Formed from El Paso County in 1911, Culberson County  
14 was named for Civil War veteran and former U.S. congressman David B.  
15 Culberson; Van Horn, by now a prosperous shipping point for cattle,  
16 became the county seat; and

17 WHEREAS, Today, tourists are drawn to the region by its  
18 austere beauty and colorful history; the county is the gateway to  
19 Guadalupe Mountains National Park, a haven for hikers and nature  
20 lovers and home to the highest mountain in Texas, Guadalupe Peak;  
21 hunters are drawn by the mule deer, pronghorn antelope, and upland  
22 game birds; and

23 WHEREAS, The Culberson County Historical Museum in the  
24 historic Clark Hotel in Van Horn tells the region's story through

1 displays of Indian and pioneer artifacts, and picturesque buildings  
2 such as the Presbyterian Church and the former El Capitan Hotel, now  
3 the Van Horn State Bank, vividly evoke the town's past; and

4 WHEREAS, Residents and visitors alike enjoy such annual  
5 events as the Culberson County Stock Show in January and the Texas  
6 Mountain Art Seminar, Show, and Sale in March; the Frontier Days and  
7 Rodeo in June has been a Van Horn tradition for 110 years, and the  
8 Old Car Festival in August draws 100 classic cars every year; and

9 WHEREAS, Blessed with great natural beauty and a rich  
10 history, the people of Culberson County may indeed take great pride  
11 in their unique contribution to the heritage and culture of the Lone  
12 Star State; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
14 Legislature hereby recognize March 31, 2009, as Culberson County  
15 Day at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation  
16 sincere best wishes for an enjoyable and informative stay in  
17 Austin.