

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Loving County Day is taking place at the State  
2 Capitol on March 31, 2009, and this occasion provides a welcome  
3 opportunity to honor this notable West Texas county; and

4           WHEREAS, An area of plains and rolling hills along the  
5 Texas-New Mexico border, Loving County is part of the Chihuahuan  
6 Desert and lies to the east of the Pecos River; in prehistoric  
7 times, the area was visited by nomadic hunters, but it saw little  
8 settlement until well into the 1800s due to the lack of usable  
9 water; the first community, Pope's Camp, was established in 1855;  
10 Pope's Camp and another early town were based on irrigation  
11 projects that sought to create a means of growing crops in the arid  
12 surroundings, but these endeavors failed, and the settlements were  
13 abandoned; and

14           WHEREAS, Loving County was separated into its own area in  
15 1887 and named for early West Texas cattle rancher Oliver Loving,  
16 but formal organization took longer; the first attempt to establish  
17 local government in 1893 was plagued by problems, which resulted in  
18 the area being reattached to Reeves County; it was not until 1931  
19 that Loving County was organized, making it the last in the Lone  
20 Star State to be permanently established and the only one to go  
21 through the process twice; and

22           WHEREAS, In the 1800s and early 1900s, cattle ranching was  
23 the mainstay of the local economy, and it remains important today;  
24 petroleum exploration got under way in the 1920s, and the

1 production of oil and natural gas has since become Loving County's  
2 primary industry; and

3 WHEREAS, The discovery of the county's rich petroleum  
4 reserves brought new residents to the area in the 1930s, which led  
5 to the establishment of the town of Ramsey; it was soon renamed  
6 Mentone and became the county seat, growing larger as the residents  
7 of the nearby settlement of Porterville moved to the new community;  
8 today, Mentone is the county's only town and serves as a supply  
9 center for nearby oil fields; it is home to the historic Loving  
10 County Courthouse, built in 1936; and

11 WHEREAS, Though it is one of the least populated counties in  
12 the nation, Loving County nonetheless plays an important role in  
13 our state's energy industry, and it is a pleasure to honor this  
14 distinctive area and the hardworking individuals who make their  
15 homes there; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
17 Legislature hereby recognize March 31, 2009, as Loving County Day  
18 at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation sincere  
19 best wishes for an enjoyable and productive visit to Austin.

Gallego

Straus	Gattis	Menendez
Allen	Geren	Merritt
Alonzo	Giddings	Miklos
Alvarado	Gonzales	Miller of Comal
Anchia	Gonzalez Toureilles	Miller of Erath
Anderson	Guillen	Moody
Aycock	Gutierrez	Morrison
Berman	Hamilton	Naishtat
Bohac	Hancock	Oliveira
Bolton	Hardcastle	Olivo
Bonnen	Harless	Orr
Branch	Harper-Brown	Ortiz, Jr.
Brown of Kaufman	Hartnett	Otto
Brown of Brazos	Heflin	Parker
Burnam	Hernandez	Patrick
Button	Herrero	Paxton
Callegari	Hilderbran	Peña
Castro	Hochberg	Phillips
Chavez	Hodge	Pickett
Chisum	Homer	Pierson
Christian	Hopson	Pitts
Cohen	Howard of Fort Bend	Quintanilla
Coleman	Howard of Travis	Raymond
Cook	Hughes	Riddle
Corte	Hunter	Rios Ybarra
Crabb	Isett	Ritter
Craddick	Jackson	Rodriguez
Creighton	Jones	Rose
Crownover	Keffer	Sheffield
Darby	Kent	Shelton
Davis of Harris	King of Parker	Smith of Tarrant
Davis of Dallas	King of Taylor	Smith of Harris
Deshotel	King of Zavala	Smithee
Driver	Kleinschmidt	Solomons
Dukes	Kolkhorst	Strama
Dunnam	Kuempel	Swinford
Dutton	Laubenberg	Taylor
Edwards	Legler	Thibaut
Eiland	Leibowitz	Thompson
Eissler	Lewis	Truitt
Elkins	Lucio III	Turner of Tarrant
England	Madden	Turner of Harris
Farabee	Maldonado	Vaught
Farias	Mallory Caraway	Veasey
Farrar	Marquez	Villarreal
Fletcher	Martinez	Vo
Flores	Martinez Fischer	Walle
Flynn	McCall	Weber
Frost	McClendon	Woolley
Gallego	McReynolds	Zerwas

H.R. No. 1137

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1137 was adopted by the House on March 31, 2009, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House