

By: Hughes

H.R. No. 1611

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Upshur County are gathering in
2 Austin on April 28, 2009, for Upshur County Day at the State
3 Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, This wooded, rolling region of East Texas was first
5 inhabited by the Caddo people; during the early 19th century the
6 Cherokee passed through the area on the Cherokee Trace, and the
7 first Anglo inhabitant, Isaac Moody, settled near West Mountain in
8 1836; and

9 WHEREAS, The 1st Texas Legislature established Upshur County
10 on April 27, 1846; the county was named after Abel P. Upshur,
11 secretary of state under President John Tyler, and Gilmer was
12 established as the county seat in 1848; and

13 WHEREAS, Corn, cotton, and cattle were the foundations of the
14 county's economy, while the region's virgin forest made it an
15 important center for the lumber industry; the arrival of the
16 railroad in the 1870s linked the area to national markets and drew
17 in more residents; and

18 WHEREAS, Today the county is a leading producer of broiler
19 chickens and dairy products; the reseeded of the forests between
20 the end of World War II and the 1980s has helped to maintain the
21 county's primacy as a lumber producer, and ceramics and vegetable
22 processing have also become important industries; and

23 WHEREAS, Gilmer is the site of the East Texas Yamboree, one of
24 the oldest continuing festivals in East Texas; first held in 1935,

1 this celebration of the sweet potato draws 100,000 visitors every
2 October with a parade, cooking contests, live music, livestock
3 exhibits, and an antique and classic car show; and

4 WHEREAS, Visitors and residents alike enjoy the fine
5 recreational opportunities offered by the county; Lake Gladewater
6 is popular with boaters, fishermen, swimmers, and picnickers, and
7 the county's wide variety of game make it a destination for hunters;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, With its scenic beauty, abundant natural resources,
10 and lively cultural traditions, Upshur County celebrates its rich
11 history while looking forward to a bright future, and it is
12 appropriate to celebrate the past, present, and future of this
13 unique region of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
15 Legislature hereby recognize April 28, 2009, as Upshur County Day
16 at the State Capitol and extend best wishes to the visiting
17 delegation for an informative and enjoyable stay in Austin.