SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 349

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize the Heritage Gathering BBQ Cook-Off, which is being held the first Saturday in May in the historic town of Bellville in Austin County, Texas, as a Texas state BBQ Championship Competition; and

WHEREAS, The Bellville Chamber of Commerce works together with the towns of Bellville, Sealy, San Felipe, Industry, Wallis, Cat Spring, and New Ulm to promote Austin County's heritage through the Heritage Gathering; and

WHEREAS, The Heritage Gathering, which is celebrating its seventh year in 2009, includes many family-friendly events, including a cattle drive and parade through Bellville's historic courthouse square, Buffalo Soldiers, the Institute of Oxenology, gunfights and jail break shootouts, battle reenactments, a Bier Garten, a trail ride, museum tours, Market Day vendors, a children's area with pony rides, face painting, period games, and live entertainment; and

WHEREAS, The Heritage Gathering attracts approximately 5,000 visitors to Bellville and Austin County every year; Texans are famous for their love of barbecue, and the cooks of the Heritage Gathering BBQ Cook-Off have proven their prowess in the art of barbecue; and

art of barbecue; and WHEREAS, The citizens of Bellville and Austin County can take pride in their region's contributions to the foundation of Texas; the Heritage Gathering was created to commemorate their pioneer spirit and to celebrate the accomplishments of all who have played a part in developing the area's rich and diverse culture, history, and traditions; now, therefore, be it RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 81st

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 81st Legislature, hereby pay tribute to the annual Heritage Gathering and Heritage Gathering BBQ Cook-Off and extend best wishes to all associated with the event; and, be it further

associated with the event; and, be it further **RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for this special occasion as an expression of the high regard of the Texas Senate.

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 2, 2009.

Secretary of the Senate