

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 424

WHEREAS, Proud residents of Wilbarger County are gathering to celebrate Wilbarger County and City of Vernon Day at the State Capitol on March 26, 2009; and

WHEREAS, Situated upon the rolling grasslands of North Texas, Wilbarger County was once part of the buffalo hunting grounds of the Comanche; named for early settlers Josiah and Mathias Wilbarger, the county was established in 1858; a branch of the Western Trail passed through the area, and six million longhorn traversed the Red River at Doan's Crossing during the great cattle drives; oil, discovered in the early 20th century, remains important to the region's economy; and

WHEREAS, County seat Vernon was originally called Eagle Flat for the abundance of nesting eagles nearby; today, the city is a center for farming, ranching, and the petroleum industry; the birthplace of rock and roll legend Roy Orbison, the town is also home to Vernon College and the Red River Valley Museum, which chronicles the history, culture, and geography of the region; and

WHEREAS, Established in 1849, the Waggoner Ranch, south of Vernon, is the largest ranch in Texas under one fence and a five-time winner of the Texas Ranch Roundup; the Santa Rosa Palomino Club is a renowned precision equestrian riding club, and the club's annual Santa Rosa Roundup draws thousands of visitors and top professional rodeo riders; residents and visitors alike also enjoy the picnic every May at Doan's Crossing, one of the oldest annual events in Texas; and

WHEREAS, Celebrating their rich and colorful history as they work together to build a bright future, the citizens of Vernon and Wilbarger County may take justifiable pride in the important role their unique region continues to play in the story of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 81st Legislature, hereby recognize March 26, 2009, as Wilbarger County and City of Vernon Day at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation sincere best wishes for a memorable and meaningful visit to Austin.

Estes

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the
above Resolution was adopted by
the Senate on March 16, 2009.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate