

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 539

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to join the residents of Loving County in celebrating Loving County Day at the Capitol; and

WHEREAS, The smallest county in the Permian Basin of West Texas, Loving County is bounded on the west by the Pecos River and on the north by New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, Loving County was created in 1887; it was carved out of Tom Green County and remained attached to Reeves County for judicial purposes; it was named for Oliver Loving, an early Texas cattleman; the county was organized in 1893, and the town of Mentone, which was laid out 12 miles north of the present Mentone, was named the county seat; and

WHEREAS, The state deorganized Loving County in 1897, and Mentone was abandoned; after the discovery of oil in the region in the 1920s, the town of Ramsey was born, which led to the second organization of Loving County in 1931; Ramsey was renamed Mentone and became the county seat; and

WHEREAS, Loving County consists of 671 square miles of flat desert terrain with a few rolling hills stretching over calichified bedrock; Mentone is the only town in the county; area wildlife includes quail, deer, javelinas, bobcats, coyotes, and armadillos; and

WHEREAS, Over the years, the county's economy has relied on oil and gas production and the unimproved land has been used for cattle grazing; and

WHEREAS, Although the area is sparsely populated, the residents of Loving County are members of a unique community, and Loving County Day is an excellent opportunity to recognize these rugged Texans and pay tribute to their county's role in the rich history of this state; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 81st Legislature, hereby express appreciation to the people of Loving County for their contributions to our state and extend best wishes to them as they celebrate Loving County Day at the Capitol; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared in honor of Loving County.

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 31, 2009.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate