

By: Flynn

H.C.R. No. 20

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The State of Texas has customarily recognized a
2 variety of official symbols as tangible representations of the
3 state's historical and cultural heritage; and

4 WHEREAS, An American classic, the hamburger has been
5 associated with Texas since the late 19th century, when Fletcher
6 Davis, a resident of Athens, developed the new sandwich and sold it
7 at his lunch counter on the courthouse square; in 1904, Mr. Davis
8 secured vending privileges on the midway at the Louisiana Purchase
9 Exposition in St. Louis, and it was there that his creation caught
10 the attention of countless visitors from across the country; the
11 novelty of the hamburger so impressed a reporter from the *New York*
12 *Tribune* that he even mentioned it in a newspaper article; a century
13 later, the 80th Texas Legislature paid tribute to Mr. Davis's
14 innovation by designating Athens as the Original Home of the
15 Hamburger; and

16 WHEREAS, In the years since its first appearance, the
17 hamburger has come to figure prominently in the state's cultural
18 landscape; a fixture at innumerable restaurants, roadside stands,
19 and backyard cookouts, it is consumed by Texans in significant
20 numbers; according to statistics provided in the *23rd Annual Report*
21 *on Eating Patterns in America*, residents of the state enjoy more
22 than 770 million hamburgers annually; and

23 WHEREAS, In economic terms, the impact of the hamburger is
24 similarly pronounced; the immense volume of the burger business

1 helps to drive the beef and grain industries of Texas and supports
2 the employment of a substantial workforce; and

3 WHEREAS, A Texan was instrumental in introducing the
4 hamburger to the American public, and that sandwich has gone on to
5 become a mainstay in the cultural and economic life of the Lone Star
6 State; it is fitting, therefore, that the association between Texas
7 and this iconic American sandwich be appropriately recognized; now,
8 therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the 82nd Legislature of the State of Texas
10 hereby designate the hamburger as the official State Sandwich of
11 Texas.