

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Many proud citizens of Van Zandt County have come to
2 the State Capitol on February 16, 2011, to celebrate the
3 significant part they and their forebears have played in the
4 development of the Lone Star State; and

5 WHEREAS, Created by an Act of the Texas Legislature on March
6 20, 1847, this Northeast Texas county was named for Isaac Van Zandt,
7 a Republic of Texas lawyer, legislator, and diplomat; and

8 WHEREAS, Canton, the county seat, was laid out in 1850 and
9 incorporated in 1919; recently named a Main Street City, it is home
10 to the Van Zandt County Fair and First Monday Trade Days, one of the
11 country's best-known flea markets; a library of genealogy and local
12 history is also a popular attraction and preserves much of the
13 county's notable heritage; and

14 WHEREAS, The development of this fascinating area can be
15 traced in a number of other communities as well; Edgewood, settled
16 in the 1840s, boasts the Edgewood Heritage Park Museum, a facility
17 dedicated to the preservation of rural cultural and architectural
18 history; and

19 WHEREAS, Edom, established in 1856, is one of the oldest
20 towns in the county, and its past is highlighted by 10 state
21 historical markers, many of them researched by members of the Edom
22 Historical Society; the residents of this small community also give
23 hearty support to an active civic theater; and

24 WHEREAS, Fruit cultivation prompted the naming of Fruitvale,

1 where a nursery operated as early as the 1870s; several generations
2 in this century-old town have treasured the Randall Store, a local
3 institution since 1910; and

4 WHEREAS, Grand Saline, originally called Jordan's Saline,
5 the first Van Zandt County seat, takes its name from an immense dome
6 of pure salt lying beneath the city; more than a mile and a half wide
7 and 20,000 feet thick, the deposit is presently mined by Morton Salt
8 Company; the city celebrates salt with an annual Salt Festival;
9 those exploring this 2004 Main Street City can tour the Salt Palace
10 Museum, a unique structure built with rock salt crystal, stop by the
11 historical marker that commemorates native son Wiley Post, the
12 renowned pioneer aviator, and visit the new Veterans Memorial Wall
13 Park, featuring a genuine U.S. Army tank; and

14 WHEREAS, Van, established in 1891, remained a quiet farming
15 community until 1929, when the discovery of oil nearby transformed
16 the village into a boomtown; the Van Area Oil and Historical Museum
17 recaptures the excitement of that frenetic time and commemorates
18 the discovery with an annual Oil Festival; and

19 WHEREAS, Wills Point, settled in 1873 and originally known as
20 Iola, was renamed for William Wills, whose cabin served as a
21 stopping place for those traveling between Shreveport and Dallas;
22 the Wills cabin still stands, as does the Texas and Pacific Railroad
23 depot, which houses the Historical Society Museum; Wills Point,
24 which is officially the Bluebird Capital of Texas, hosts the annual
25 Bluebird Festival; and

26 WHEREAS, Ben Wheeler, surrounded by natural springs and rich
27 farmland, was named for Van Zandt County's first mail carrier,

1 Benjamin R. Wheeler, in 1876; and

2 WHEREAS, Martins Mill, which got its name from Dan R.
3 Martin's gristmill, was established in 1880 and is home to one of
4 the largest dairies in East Texas; the community survived
5 destruction by tornadoes and fires and today boasts a successful
6 school district; and

7 WHEREAS, Major events in the county include the Texas State
8 Bluegrass Festival, the Edom Festival of the Arts, and the Van Zandt
9 County Relay for Life; for the outdoor enthusiast, the Neches and
10 Sabine Rivers, Purtis Creek State Park, and Lake Tawakoni State
11 Park offer wonderful opportunities for fishing, boating, swimming,
12 and camping; and

13 WHEREAS, The home of more than 50,000 people, Van Zandt
14 County relies on tourism, oil, and agribusiness; the area is a major
15 producer of hay, blueberries, sweet potatoes, and nursery crops, in
16 addition to cattle, horses, hogs, and dairy products; and

17 WHEREAS, The citizens of Van Zandt County take justifiable
18 pride in the hard work and ready cooperation that have made their
19 county strong, and it is a pleasure to join them in honoring the
20 county they are proud to call home; now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
22 Legislature hereby recognize February 16, 2011, as Van Zandt County
23 Day at the State Capitol and extend sincere best wishes to the
24 visiting Van Zandt residents for an informative and memorable day.

Flynn

Straus	Gonzales of Williamson	Morrison
Aliseda	Gonzalez	Munoz, Jr.
Allen	Gooden	Murphy
Alonzo	Guillen	Naishtat
Alvarado	Gutierrez	Nash
Anchia	Hamilton	Oliveira
Anderson of Dallas	Hancock	Orr
Anderson of McLennan	Hardcastle	Otto
Aycock	Harless	Parker
Beck	Harper-Brown	Patrick
Berman	Hartnett	Paxton
Bohac	Hernandez Luna	Pena
Bonnen	Hilderbran	Perry
Branch	Hochberg	Phillips
Brown	Hopson	Pickett
Burkett	Howard of Fort Bend	Pitts
Burnam	Howard of Travis	Price
Button	Huberty	Quintanilla
Cain	Hughes	Raymond
Callegari	Hunter	Reynolds
Carter	Isaac	Riddle
Castro	Jackson	Ritter
Chisum	Johnson	Rodriguez
Christian	Keffer	Schwertner
Coleman	King of Parker	Scott
Cook	King of Taylor	Sheets
Craddick	King of Zavala	Sheffield
Creighton	Kleinschmidt	Shelton
Crownover	Kolkhorst	Simpson
Darby	Kuempel	Smith of Harris
Davis of Dallas	Landtroop	Smith of Tarrant
J. Davis of Harris	Larson	Smithee
S. Davis of Harris	Laubenberg	Solomons
Deshotel	Lavender	Strama
Driver	Legler	Taylor of Collin
Dukes	Lewis	Taylor of Galveston
Dutton	Lozano	Thompson
Eiland	Lucio III	Torres
Eissler	Lyne	Truitt
Elkins	Madden	Turner
Farias	Mallory Caraway	Veasey
Farrar	Margo	Villarreal
Fletcher	Marquez	Vo
Flynn	Martinez	Walle
Frullo	Martinez Fischer	Weber
Gallego	McClendon	White
Garza	Menendez	Woolley
Geren	Miles	Workman
Giddings	Miller of Comal	Zedler
Gonzales of Hidalgo	Miller of Erath	Zerwas

H.R. No. 133

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 133 was adopted by the House on February 16, 2011, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House