

By: Hardcastle

H.R. No. 298

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Proud residents of Wilbarger County are gathering to  
2 celebrate Wilbarger County and City of Vernon Day at the State  
3 Capitol on March 24, 2011; and

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

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

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

1 oldest annual events in Texas; and

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

7           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
8 Legislature hereby recognize March 24, 2011, as Wilbarger County  
9 and City of Vernon Day at the State Capitol and extend to the  
10 visiting delegation sincere best wishes for a memorable and  
11 meaningful visit to Austin.