H.R. No. 496

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Proud residents of Hill County are gathering in
Austin to celebrate Hill County Day at the State Capitol on February
23, 2011; and

WHEREAS, This scenic region of prairie and gently rolling hills east of the Brazos River was first inhabited 700 years ago; in the early 1700s, hunting camps were established by the Wichita people, and in the 1820s and 1830s, Indians of the Comanche and Taovaya tribes moved through the area; and

9 WHEREAS, Hill County was established by the state legislature 10 on February 7, 1853, and named for Dr. George Washington Hill, the 11 secretary of war for the Republic of Texas under President Sam 12 Houston; Hillsboro was founded in 1853 as the county seat; and

13 WHEREAS, Cattle and cotton quickly became the mainstays of 14 the economy, and by the early 1900s, the area was known as the 15 second-largest cotton-producing county in the nation; and

16 WHEREAS, Hill County has grown with the changing times while still maintaining its charm and friendliness; the county 17 courthouse, which was nearly destroyed by fire in 1993, was 18 restored to its 1890s grandeur and continues to function as the hub 19 20 for all county business; Hill College provides for the educational 21 needs of local citizens and further serves the region with its Performing Arts Series; the campus also houses the Texas Heritage 22 23 Museum, including an extensive collection of Audie Murphy artifacts and a 10,000-volume library on the Civil War; and 24

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1 WHEREAS, Recreational opportunities for the county's 2 residents and visitors are provided by Lake Whitney State Park, a 3 prime destination for camping, hiking, boating, and bird-watching, 4 with over 194 species of birds spotted so far; additionally, the 5 Hill County community of Abbott, the birthplace of legendary singer 6 and songwriter Willie Nelson, is of interest to music fans; and

7 WHEREAS, Each year the communities of Hill County host a 8 number of gala events such as the Hill County Fair and the Go 9 Texan/Cotton Pickin' Fair in Hillsboro, Pioneer Days in Whitney, 10 and the Hubbard Trade Days, all of which showcase the county's 11 hospitality, agricultural heritage, and scenic beauty; and

WHEREAS, The residents of Hill County are justifiably proud of their heritage and the many qualities that make their county an outstanding place in which to live, work, and raise a family, and it is most fitting that Hill County be honored on this special day; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas 18 Legislature hereby recognize February 23, 2011, as Hill County Day 19 at the State Capitol and extend to its citizens sincere best wishes 20 for an informative and enjoyable stay in Austin.

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 496 was adopted by the House on February 23, 2011, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House