

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Public-spirited citizens of Matagorda County are
2 gathering in Austin to celebrate Matagorda County Day at the State
3 Capitol on February 23, 2011; and

4 WHEREAS, Taking its name from the Spanish phrase meaning
5 "thick brush," this region of prairie, salt marshes, and coastal
6 waterways was visited by the French explorer La Salle in 1685; the
7 area constituted part of Stephen F. Austin's first colony, and
8 settlers began arriving through Matagorda Bay during the winter of
9 1821-1822; in 1829, the town of Matagorda was established as a
10 military post, and in 1836, Matagorda County became one of the
11 original 23 counties of the Republic of Texas; and

12 WHEREAS, Matagorda ranked as the second-largest seaport in
13 Texas for a time and served as a shipping point for cotton, sugar,
14 and livestock raised in the county; when the boll weevil endangered
15 the cotton crop in the early 20th century, farmers began to grow
16 rice, and the discovery of oil and sulfur further diversified the
17 county's economy; and

18 WHEREAS, Ranching, farming, and petroleum remain important,
19 and the county also benefits from the presence of the South Texas
20 Project nuclear plant, which generates enough electricity to power
21 approximately two million homes in Texas; Bay City, the county
22 seat, is a center of the petrochemical industry, while the port at
23 Palacios is home to the largest fishing fleet on the Texas Gulf
24 Coast; and

1 WHEREAS, Visitors and residents alike enjoy the county's fine
2 beaches and its many opportunities for fishing and water sports,
3 while birders from across the nation are drawn to the Mad Island
4 Marsh and Wildlife Management Area; Bay City is the location of
5 several major annual attractions--the annual county fair,
6 livestock show, and rodeo, which take place in the early spring, and
7 the Rice Festival, which is held in the fall; in between those
8 dates, Palacios hosts the Texas Fishermen's Seafood Festival, in
9 December, and a reenactment of La Salle's landing, every Fourth of
10 July; and

11 WHEREAS, Matagorda County is an area of abundant natural
12 resources and rich history, and its residents may take great pride
13 in their notable heritage as they look forward to a future filled
14 with promise; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
16 Legislature hereby recognize February 23, 2011, as Matagorda County
17 Day at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation
18 sincere best wishes for a meaningful and memorable visit to Austin.

Weber

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. 554

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 554 was adopted by the House on February 23, 2011, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House