

By: Laubenberg

H.R. No. 637

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Rockwall County are gathering in
2 Austin on February 28, 2011, to celebrate Rockwall County Day at the
3 State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, Situated on the gently rolling Blackland Prairie of
5 North Texas, the region was originally inhabited by Caddo and
6 Cherokee Indians; the first European resident, John O. Heath,
7 settled on the East Fork of the Trinity River in 1846; Rockwall
8 County was established in 1873, taking its name from an underground
9 rock formation discovered by farmers who were digging a well; and

10 WHEREAS, An important center for cotton production for many
11 years, Rockwall County today boasts a population of more than
12 78,000 people who enjoy being in close proximity to the Dallas-Fort
13 Worth Metroplex while savoring the relaxed and comfortable way of
14 life in the county's many thriving communities; and

15 WHEREAS, The City of Rowlett, on the shore of Lake Ray
16 Hubbard, is emerging as an important regional center and will be the
17 site of the intersection of the eastern extension of the President
18 George Bush Turnpike and the new Blue Line Extension of DART
19 Commuter Rail; and

20 WHEREAS, The nearly 7,000 residents of Heath benefit from the
21 rustic beauty of its spectacular lakeside setting, as well as from
22 the city's prudent, low-density residential growth strategies;
23 with soaring property values and low tax rates, the community is
24 further strengthened by superior public schools and by recent

1 commercial and professional development, including the Baylor
2 Medical Center at Rockwall; and

3 WHEREAS, The fastest-growing city in the state, the
4 population of Fate rose from 497 in 2000 to 6,357 in 2010, an
5 increase of 1,179 percent; in 2008, the city's voters passed a
6 home-rule charter by an overwhelming majority; this development
7 promises to make that community an even more important component of
8 the county's economy; and

9 WHEREAS, Positive change and preparation for the years ahead
10 are also taking place in the City of McLendon-Chisholm; this is the
11 newest city in Rockwall County but was formed from two of the oldest
12 area communities, McLendon and Chisholm, both of which date back to
13 the mid-1800s; and

14 WHEREAS, Designated as a Main Street City in 2009, Rockwall
15 is a fast-growing suburban community that is dedicated to
16 preserving its heritage and its pleasant, family-friendly
17 atmosphere; as part of that effort, the city's Historic
18 Preservation Advisory Board has worked with residents and civic
19 leaders to develop a preservation plan for the Old Town Rockwall
20 Historic District, which will help the district to remain the
21 vibrant heart of the city; and

22 WHEREAS, Residents of Royse City are also making it a
23 priority to carry forth the small-town way of life that has long
24 characterized their community; designated as a Main Street City in
25 2008, the town has established a Heritage Committee and ordinance
26 and design guidelines in order to revitalize the historical
27 district, and it also benefits from a strong chamber of commerce

1 that supports local businesses; and

2 WHEREAS, Helping to build a bright future for the region is
3 the Leadership Rockwall County Class of 2011; members of this
4 outstanding program are working to become local leaders by learning
5 about the challenges and opportunities of the county's civic and
6 business community; and

7 WHEREAS, Throughout Rockwall County, citizens have done an
8 outstanding job of building on long-cherished hometown values as
9 they plan for a dynamic future, and their ongoing success in these
10 endeavors has made the county an exceptional place to live, work,
11 and raise a family; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
13 Legislature hereby recognize February 28, 2011, as Rockwall County
14 Day at the State Capitol and extend to all those residents here
15 today best wishes for a memorable and enjoyable visit.