

By: Aliseda

H.R. No. 696

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Poteet are coming together on
2 April 9, 2011, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the
3 establishment of their community; and

4 WHEREAS, This area of the South Texas plains was first
5 settled in the 1880s, when Francis Marion Poteet established a
6 blacksmith shop and post office near the current site of the town;
7 by 1892, the community had acquired a cotton gin, a gristmill, and a
8 wagon maker; and

9 WHEREAS, In 1896, Henry T. Mumme arrived and opened a general
10 store, taking over for Mr. Poteet as postmaster; Mr. Mumme found
11 artesian wells in the area in 1904, and the discovery of a ready
12 source of water made the region more attractive for farmers; and

13 WHEREAS, In 1910, Mr. Mumme and his wife, Ida, donated land
14 for a railway line and land for a townsite near the railroad, three
15 miles from the original settlement; in 1911, Mr. Mumme moved his
16 store to that location, and the town of Poteet was born; and

17 WHEREAS, During that period, Mr. Mumme began to grow
18 strawberries, which soon became the town's signature crop; other
19 farmers started to grow peanuts, onions, and watermelons, and the
20 town became a commercial center for agriculture in the area; and

21 WHEREAS, Today, Poteet is regarded by many as "The Strawberry
22 Capital of Texas," producing 40 percent of the state's
23 strawberries, which are renowned for their superior quality;
24 ranching and the farming of peanuts, hay, and forage grains also

1 continue to be important to the town's economy; and

2 WHEREAS, Visitors and residents alike delight in the
3 Strawberry Festival held each April; one of the largest
4 agricultural festivals in the state, the celebration features a
5 strawberry competition, a food show, a parade, fireworks, and
6 performances by country music and Tejano stars; other popular
7 attractions include the seven-foot-tall, 1,600 pound concrete
8 strawberry outside the Poteet Volunteer Fire Department and the
9 mosaic of Poteet Canyon, a character from the Steve Canyon comic
10 strip who was named after the town; and

11 WHEREAS, Celebrating their colorful past as they work to
12 build a bright future, the citizens of Poteet may indeed take great
13 pride in their community on this special day; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
15 Legislature hereby commemorate the 100th anniversary of the
16 founding of Poteet and extend to the town's officials, residents,
17 and guests sincere best wishes for a memorable and meaningful
18 celebration.