

By: Cain

H.R. No. 881

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Many proud citizens of Lamar County are visiting the
2 State Capitol on April 6, 2011, to celebrate the prominent role this
3 Northeast Texas county has played in the annals of the Lone Star
4 State; and

5 WHEREAS, At the time of the Republic of Texas, present-day
6 Lamar County was located within the boundaries of Red River County;
7 population growth led the Fifth Congress of the republic to
8 establish Lamar County on December 17, 1840, and the current
9 boundaries were drawn 30 years later when a portion of land was
10 carved out for the creation of Delta County; and

11 WHEREAS, Lamar County's namesake was the fourth president of
12 the Republic of Texas, Mirabeau B. Lamar; the small settlement of
13 Lafayette served as the first county seat, but after the Texas
14 Congress passed a law requiring that each county seat be located
15 within five miles of the county's geographic center, Mount Vernon
16 served briefly in that capacity until the town of Paris was founded
17 on 50 acres donated by George W. Wright; Paris has served as the
18 county seat since 1844; and

19 WHEREAS, Numerous early settlers migrated to Lamar County
20 through Tennessee and Kentucky and established small farms; at the
21 turn of the century, the county remained primarily rural, and
22 although the population of Paris had grown to more than 9,000, no
23 other community exceeded 1,000 residents; the industrial economy
24 gradually began to make gains on agriculture in the 20th century as

1 people moved into towns and smaller communities, and Paris played
2 an increasingly important role in the economy of Northeast Texas;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Today, Paris is a hub of retail trade, farming, and
5 medical care and home to four Fortune 500 companies, Campbell's
6 Soup Company, Kimberly-Clark Corporation, Sara Lee Bakery Group,
7 and Florida Power and Light; the city is located within an excellent
8 multimodal transportation network, and in addition to
9 manufacturing and processing plants, it hosts a number of
10 distribution centers that serve the entire nation; and

11 WHEREAS, Quality of life in Paris is enhanced by such
12 beautiful recreation areas as Wade Park, Lake Gibbons, Lake Crook,
13 and the Sam Bell Maxey State Historic Structure; every summer,
14 citizens enjoy the Tour de Paris bike race and concerts by the Paris
15 Municipal Band, the oldest such ensemble in the state; landmarks
16 include the Culbertson Fountain in the historic district, named
17 "the prettiest plaza in the State of Texas" by *Texas Monthly*
18 magazine, and the "second largest Eiffel Tower in the Second
19 Largest Paris," a 65-foot-tall monument constructed by local
20 workers and capped, appropriately, with a cowboy hat; and

21 WHEREAS, The industrious residents of this vital Texas county
22 are preserving the best of their past while working to meet the
23 challenges and opportunities that lie ahead, and it is indeed a
24 pleasure to honor them at this time; now, therefore, be it

25 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
26 Legislature hereby recognize April 6, 2011, as Lamar County Day at
27 the State Capitol and extend to the delegation sincere best wishes

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1 for an enjoyable and memorable visit.