

By: Christian

H.R. No. 1069

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Shelby County Day is being celebrated at the State
2 Capitol on March 31, 2011, and this occasion provides a fine
3 opportunity to pay tribute to this unique region of the Lone Star
4 State; and

5 WHEREAS, Located alongside the Toledo Bend Reservoir on the
6 Sabine River, the territory that now makes up Shelby County has
7 drawn people for thousands of years; the Caddo were the chief
8 inhabitants of the region by the time Spanish and French explorers
9 arrived, and the first non-Native American settlers established
10 farms in the late 1810s; and

11 WHEREAS, The area was organized as Tenehaw Municipality in
12 1835, when Texas was still a part of Mexico, but it was renamed as
13 Shelby County when it became one of the original counties of the
14 Republic of Texas in 1836; its name was a tribute to Isaac Shelby, a
15 hero of the American Revolution; and

16 WHEREAS, Throughout the county's history, agriculture and
17 livestock have been mainstays of the local economy; the ample
18 forests of the area are another major asset, supporting jobs in
19 lumber processing and wood-product manufacturing and also drawing
20 tourists; the Sabine National Forest is a favorite destination for
21 outdoor recreation, as is Toledo Bend Reservoir, a quality spot for
22 boating and fishing; and

23 WHEREAS, Center, the largest town, has been the county seat
24 since 1866; it is home to the Shelby County Museum and the former

1 Shelby County Courthouse, a castle-like structure constructed in
2 1885 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places; and

3 WHEREAS, Residents and visitors alike enjoy a variety of
4 special events that dot the county's annual calendar, including the
5 Center Fly-In, which is held in May, the Shelby County Sheriff's
6 Posse PRCA Rodeo in June, the What-A-Melon Festival in July, and the
7 East Texas Poultry Festival in October; thanks to its year-round
8 charm and diverse amenities, Shelby County is now also a certified
9 retirement community; and

10 WHEREAS, The city of Center was the recipient of a GO TEXAN
11 Hardworking Rural Community award in 2010 from the Texas Department
12 of Agriculture, recognizing Center, and Shelby County, for their
13 achievements in rural tourism, job creation, leadership
14 opportunities, community improvements, and overall economic
15 development; winners of the award benefit from added statewide
16 publicity and receive grants for future projects; and

17 WHEREAS, From the time of its establishment 175 years ago,
18 Shelby County has contributed to the rich and meaningful saga of the
19 Lone Star State, and its citizens can be proud to claim allegiance
20 to this scenic part of East Texas; now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
22 Legislature hereby recognize March 31, 2011, as Shelby County Day
23 at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation best
24 wishes for the future.