

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The celebration of Ward County Day at the State  
2 Capitol on March 31, 2011, provides a fitting opportunity to  
3 recognize its fascinating place in the annals of Texas; and

4           WHEREAS, Once roamed by the Jumano and Comanche people, Ward  
5 County is located along the southwestern edge of the High Plains;  
6 Spanish explorers Antonio de Espejo and Alvar Nunez Cabeza de Vaca  
7 left journals describing their travels through the area in the  
8 1580s, but it was some three centuries before large-scale  
9 settlement arrived with the advent of the Texas and Pacific  
10 Railway; and

11           WHEREAS, The Texas Legislature carved out territory from Tom  
12 Green County and organized it as Ward County in 1892, naming it  
13 after Thomas William "Peg Leg" Ward, an Irishman who served as a  
14 colonel in the Republic of Texas Army and whose myriad roles in the  
15 state's early history included service as chief clerk for the House  
16 of Representatives in 1839; the red sandstone Ward County  
17 Courthouse was built in 1893 in Barstow, the original county seat,  
18 and the town's residents numbered nearly 1,500 by the turn of the  
19 century; and

20           WHEREAS, Until the early 20th century, the economy revolved  
21 around ranching; irrigation projects on the Pecos River allowed the  
22 planting of numerous vineyards and orchards, but a dam failure and  
23 drought conditions plagued farmers; nevertheless, cotton  
24 production expanded and covered more than 10,000 acres by 1920; the

1 opening of the Henrick oilfield in 1926 ushered in a period of great  
2 prosperity, and during the boom, Monahans became the economic  
3 center and county seat; the county's population reached about 9,500  
4 people by 1940; and

5 WHEREAS, Through the opening of the magnificent Monahans  
6 Sandhills State Historic Park in 1957, Ward County gained tourism  
7 as another cornerstone of its economy; present-day attractions also  
8 include the Million Barrel Museum and the Rattlesnake Bomber Base  
9 Museum, as well as events such as the annual Butterfield-Overland  
10 Stagecoach and Wagon Festival; and

11 WHEREAS, Those who call Ward County home can take justifiable  
12 pride in a county as colorful and many-faceted as its heroic  
13 namesake, and it is indeed a pleasure to welcome these citizens to  
14 Austin on this special day; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
16 Legislature hereby recognize March 31, 2011, as Ward County Day at  
17 the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation sincere  
18 best wishes for a memorable and enjoyable stay.

Gallego

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. 1121

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1121 was adopted by the House on April 14, 2011, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House