

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, 2011 marks the 100th anniversary of the creation of
2 White Rock Lake in Dallas, and area residents are celebrating the
3 centennial of this treasured landmark; and

4 WHEREAS, City officials began to acquire land in the White
5 Rock Creek valley in 1907 in anticipation of creating a reservoir to
6 meet growing water supply needs in Dallas; water shortages in 1910
7 prompted the city to move forward with plans to build a dam on the
8 creek, and by 1911 the work was finished; the first water from the
9 lake was pumped into Dallas mains in 1913, and the lake was
10 determined to be at capacity the following year; and

11 WHEREAS, After Lake Lewisville in Denton County was completed
12 in 1929, White Rock Lake and the land surrounding it became a city
13 park, and sand was brought in to make a bathing beach; Dallas
14 residents soon discovered that the lake was an ideal place for
15 outdoor sports; and

16 WHEREAS, During the Depression, a Civilian Conservation
17 Corps unit was established at the lake, and the men stationed there
18 were responsible for planting many of the trees that line its shores
19 today; during World War II, the Army Air Corps used the CCC barracks
20 as an induction center and boot camp, and later it served as a
21 prisoner-of-war camp for German noncombatants captured in North
22 Africa; it was subsequently used to house an overflow of Southern
23 Methodist University students when many former soldiers were
24 attending college on the GI Bill after the war; and

1 WHEREAS, A drought in 1953 forced city officials to put the
2 lake back into service as a water supply, and it was never reopened
3 to swimmers; although the lake entered a period of decline in the
4 following years, a resurgence of interest took place in the 1970s,
5 when the first "Run the Rock" marathon was held and a hike and bike
6 trail was built; the abandoned bathhouse was converted into a
7 community center for the visual and performing arts in 1981; and

8 WHEREAS, Further improving White Rock's future prospects, a
9 collection of Dallas citizens formed For the Love of the Lake in
10 1995, and by 2001 the organization had 3,500 volunteers who did much
11 to clean and restore the area; a new leash-free dog park has been
12 added, and the lake today offers sailing, rowing, bird-watching,
13 and fishing opportunities as well as picnic areas, playgrounds, and
14 athletic facilities to more than two million visitors each year;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, District 9 City Council member Sheffield Kadane has
17 appointed a committee of Dallas citizens and lake stakeholders,
18 co-chaired by Darren Boruff and Reena Morris, to plan, coordinate,
19 and oversee more than 20 different events and activities related to
20 the Comerica White Rock Lake Centennial Celebration through the
21 cooperation of 20 different groups, including the City of Dallas
22 Park and Recreation Department, the Dallas Water Utilities, and the
23 Dallas Police Department; and

24 WHEREAS, The 2011 Comerica White Rock Lake Centennial
25 Celebration runs from March through June; serving as honorary chair
26 of the celebration is iconic city Realtor and former park and
27 recreation board member Ebby Halliday, who in 2011 also turned 100;

1 a golf tournament, a bike ride, a half marathon, a bass fishing
2 tournament, rowing sprint championships, and family fun weekends
3 are just a few of the many ways organizers are marking the occasion;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, For a century, White Rock Lake has contributed to
6 the quality of life in the city of Dallas and beyond as an important
7 water source and a beloved destination for leisure, solace, and
8 recreation, and it is indeed fitting to commemorate the rich
9 history of this urban oasis; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
11 Legislature hereby commemorate the 100th anniversary of the
12 creation of White Rock Lake in Dallas.

Sheets
Branch
Johnson
Flynn

H.R. No. 1259

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1259 was adopted by the House on April 21, 2011, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House