

By: Flynn

H.R. No. 1376

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Van Zandt County Historical Commission and the
2 citizens of Van are celebrating the dedication of a Texas
3 Historical Marker honoring Swindall School on May 21, 2011; and

4 WHEREAS, Swindall School was the first school to be built in
5 the farming community that would eventually become known as Van; it
6 was established about 1880 on land donated by George W. Swindall,
7 whose name became associated with both the school and the
8 surrounding community; as a result of Mr. Swindall's generosity,
9 area children were at last able to attend school on a regular basis;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, The first teacher to serve at Swindall School was
12 T. W. Staton, and the school continued to operate with just one
13 teacher until the fall of 1906, when John and Lucy Rhodes were
14 hired; a post office opened in the community in 1894 and was
15 designated Van, but the school retained the Swindall name; and

16 WHEREAS, In 1903, the Van Zandt County Commissioners Court
17 established the Van School District to manage Swindall and Spring
18 Hill Schools; by 1915, growth in the district necessitated the
19 construction of a larger facility to accommodate the increased
20 enrollment; the schools at Swindall and Spring Hill closed after
21 the 1915-1916 school year, and the new Van Common School opened in
22 the fall of 1916; and

23 WHEREAS, Recognition by the Texas Historical Commission
24 highlights the contribution that Swindall School made to the

1 development of Van and assures that the notable history of the
2 school will be preserved for future generations; now, therefore, be
3 it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
5 Legislature hereby commemorate the dedication of a Texas Historical
6 Marker at Swindall School in Van and that all those involved in
7 securing the historical marker be extended sincere appreciation;
8 and, be it further

9 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
10 prepared for the Van Zandt County Historical Commission as an
11 expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.