

By: Hegar

S.C.R. No. 18

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1           WHEREAS, The city of Gonzales has special prominence in the  
2 history of this state as the site of the first battle of the Texas  
3 Revolution, and the town seeks to heighten awareness of the rich  
4 heritage shared by all Texans with a number of museums it has opened  
5 to tell the colorful and inspiring story of the Lone Star State; and

6           WHEREAS, Recognizing the significance of the community's  
7 historical attractions, the Gonzales Texas History Museums  
8 Partnership, working in conjunction with city leaders, has  
9 established a history museum district that encompasses the public  
10 lands between and adjacent to St. Lawrence Street and St. Louis  
11 Street, extending from Highway 183 to Highway 90; within that area  
12 are 18 sites that help illuminate our state's unique past; and

13           WHEREAS, Several of the museum district locations  
14 commemorate the events surrounding that fateful day of October 2,  
15 1835, when local residents took up arms against Mexican troops,  
16 firing the first shots in the revolution that would lead to the  
17 independence of Texas; the Gonzales Memorial Museum contains a  
18 mural honoring the brave patriots who took part in the Battle of  
19 Gonzales as well as an artillery piece that some believe to be the  
20 legendary "Come and Take It" cannon that sparked the skirmish; the  
21 limestone museum building is interesting in its own right, having  
22 been constructed in the 1930s to mark the centennial of the Lone  
23 Star State; and

24           WHEREAS, Nearby is the Eggleston House Museum, a

1 dogtrot-style log cabin that was built in the 1840s, and the  
2 district also contains numerous other examples of historic  
3 architecture; among them are the Old College, built in 1851, the Old  
4 Jail Museum, which dates to the late 1800s, and the Gonzales County  
5 Courthouse, constructed in the mid-1890s; and

6 WHEREAS, The Gonzales museum district encompasses a variety  
7 of additional landmarks as well, including the town's seven  
8 downtown squares, churches that first opened their doors at the  
9 turn of the 20th century, and the 1917 Crystal Theatre; and

10 WHEREAS, These sites have long been enjoyed by visitors to  
11 Gonzales, and the establishment of the museum district is sure to  
12 make the town an even more popular destination in the years ahead;  
13 the community offers a treasure trove of interesting and  
14 informative locations that help explain how Texas was established  
15 and how it has developed into the state we know today, and the  
16 community's role as a center for historical tourism is indeed  
17 deserving of special recognition; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the 82nd Legislature of the State of Texas  
19 hereby designate a portion of the city of Gonzales as the official  
20 Texas History Museum District.