

**SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 341**

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to join the residents of Culberson County in celebrating Culberson County Day at the State Capitol; and

**WHEREAS**, Culberson County covers 3,815 square miles and is located in the Trans-Pecos region of West Texas; the land is both level and mountainous, with elevations ranging from 3,000 feet to Guadalupe Peak's 8,751 feet; Guadalupe Peak is the highest point in the state and a major tourist attraction in Guadalupe Mountains National Park; and

**WHEREAS**, The Apaches, the area's most famous indigenous inhabitants, arrived about 600 years ago; the forbidding terrain and the presence of the Apaches deterred most Spanish exploration and settlement; a Folsom point found in the Guadalupe Mountains is evidence of human occupation of the area as early as 12,000 years ago; and

**WHEREAS**, By the middle of the 19th century, new routes were being sought to connect central and eastern Texas with El Paso and California, and the 1849 gold rush increased the demand; with the completion of the Texas and Pacific Railway in the 1880s, settlement in the area began in earnest; Culberson County was created in 1911 from El Paso County and named after David B. Culberson; the county was organized and Van Horn was named its county seat in 1912; and

**WHEREAS**, The extraction of minerals has long been important in Culberson County; its land has yielded copper, silver, molybdenum, gypsum, talc, and many other minerals; in 1953, oil was discovered; and

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**WHEREAS,** The citizens of Culberson County have long appreciated their county's assets and the benefits of attracting visitors to the area, and tourism has become increasingly important to the local economy; and

**WHEREAS,** Culberson County Day at the State Capitol provides an opportunity to honor the county's rich history and its many amenities and contributions to this state; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That the Senate of the State of Texas, 82nd Legislature, hereby pay tribute to the residents of Culberson County and extend best wishes to the county's delegation for a memorable Culberson County Day at the State Capitol; and, be it further

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be prepared in honor of the citizens of Culberson County.

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 28, 2011.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate