

By: Sheffield of Coryell

H.R. No. 146

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, For more than 75 years, Stephenville has played a
2 significant role in preserving and promoting the heritage of the
3 American rodeo and the cowboy way of life; and

4 WHEREAS, Considered by many to be the Cowboy Capital of the
5 World, Stephenville and its vicinity first became important to the
6 history of rodeo in 1937, when Everett Colborn moved his new rodeo
7 company to the nearby Lightning C Ranch, where he raised some of the
8 best rodeo stock in the world; during the 1950s, George and Beulah
9 Brown, the only husband and wife to be inducted into the Texas
10 Cowboy Hall of Fame, helped introduce rodeo to the area; and

11 WHEREAS, Today, Stephenville is headquarters of the United
12 States Team Roping Championship, and it is home to Lone Star Arena,
13 a premier rodeo venue that also hosts expositions, concerts, horse
14 shows, and other events; the city is also home to Tarleton State
15 University and its championship rodeo team; since 1947, Tarleton
16 riders and ropers have won 21 individual national titles in such
17 events as barrel racing, calf roping, and steer wrestling, and
18 Tarleton teams have taken six national titles; the team is one of
19 the largest in the nation, boasting more than 100 members; and

20 WHEREAS, Many championship riders and their families have
21 lived in the surrounding county, including world champion bull and
22 bronc rider Harry Tompkins, bull-riding champion Ty Murray and his
23 wife, the singer Jewel, world champion bull rider Tuff Hedeman, the
24 twin brother bull riders Adam and Gilbert Carrillo, and

1 J. J. Hampton, who has won more championships than any other woman
2 in professional rodeo; Stephenville was also the home of pioneering
3 barrel racer and National Cowgirl Hall of Fame inductee Isora
4 Young; many of these individuals have been honored in
5 Stephenville's Cowboy Capital Walk of Fame; and

6 WHEREAS, The rich history of the Western cowboy and cowgirl,
7 with their code of honor, dedication to traditional values, and
8 strong work ethic, remains vital and alive in Stephenville, and the
9 city's residents may indeed take great pride in the role they have
10 played in sustaining this outstanding cultural legacy; now,
11 therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
13 Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby honor Stephenville for its
14 long history as a center of Western heritage and extend to the
15 city's officials and residents sincere best wishes for continued
16 success in their maintenance of this proud tradition; and, be it
17 further

18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
19 prepared for the City of Stephenville as an expression of high
20 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.