

1-1 By: Clardy, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Nichols) H.C.R. No. 24
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 3, 2013;
 1-3 April 4, 2013, read first time and referred to Committee on
 1-4 Administration; April 15, 2013, reported favorably by the
 1-5 following vote: Yeas 4, Nays 0; April 15, 2013, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10			X	
1-11	X			
1-12			X	
1-13			X	
1-14	X			

1-15 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-16 WHEREAS, The Lone Star State is renowned for the beauty and
 1-17 diversity of its many public gardens and parks, and for the
 1-18 dedication of Texans in preserving and sustaining these oases of
 1-19 greenery; and

1-20 WHEREAS, While outstanding gardens can be found in many
 1-21 communities throughout the state, the city of Nacogdoches is
 1-22 deserving of particular recognition for the number and variety of
 1-23 its green and flowering public spaces; and

1-24 WHEREAS, Nacogdoches is located on the site of a village once
 1-25 occupied by the Nacogdoche Indians, a group of the Caddo people,
 1-26 whose culture was based on farming and gardening; a Spanish mission
 1-27 was established there in 1716 and continued in existence for the
 1-28 better part of six and a half decades; the town has been a civil
 1-29 settlement since 1779, and its situation at the crossroads of two
 1-30 Spanish colonial highways, El Camino Real and El Calle del Norte,
 1-31 made it an early center of multicultural exchange; as early as 1853,
 1-32 the city's gardens were noted in the diary of a famous visitor,
 1-33 Frederick Law Olmsted, the landscape architect who designed New
 1-34 York's Central Park; and

1-35 WHEREAS, Today, Nacogdoches helps to preserve the state's
 1-36 horticultural heritage through re-creations of traditional gardens
 1-37 at the Durst-Taylor Historic House and Gardens, the Sterne-Hoya
 1-38 House Museum and Library, Millard's Crossing Historic Village, the
 1-39 Old University Building, and the Spanish Religious Plaza; and

1-40 WHEREAS, The city's splendid green spaces also include
 1-41 Eugenia Sterne Park, Margil Park, along the Lanana Creek Trail, the
 1-42 Zion Hill Baptist Church and Oak Grove Cemeteries, and the Pocket
 1-43 Park and the Plaza Principal in the historic downtown; the Liberty
 1-44 Memorial Garden, along Banita Creek, commemorates with dignity and
 1-45 grace the lives lost during the tragic events of 9/11; and

1-46 WHEREAS, Nacogdoches is home to Stephen F. Austin State
 1-47 University, which is landscaped with overstory and ornamental trees
 1-48 to maintain the Pineywoods ecosystem and natural beauty of the
 1-49 campus; the university's 128 acres of gardens include the SFA Mast
 1-50 Arboretum, the Pineywoods Native Plant Center, the Gayla Mize
 1-51 Garden, the Jim and Beth Kingham Children's Garden, the Sustainable
 1-52 Community Education Garden, and the Crape Myrtle Garden, which
 1-53 together feature the largest botanical collection in Texas of bald
 1-54 cypress, boxwood, camellias, gardenias, hollies, hydrangeas,
 1-55 magnolias, and maples; each year, the SFA Gardens hosts programs
 1-56 that educate 17,000 people in sustainable gardening and the
 1-57 preservation of native plants, while the Nacogdoches Independent
 1-58 School District supports initiatives that encourage its students to
 1-59 grow and study gardens on their school grounds; and

1-60 WHEREAS, Home of the annual 22-mile Nacogdoches Azalea Trail
 1-61 each March, the community was named the first Azalea City of America

2-1 by the Azalea Society of America in 2004 and was recertified in
2-2 2012; the Ruby M. Mize Azalea Garden on the SFA campus is the
2-3 largest such garden in the state, with more than 520 species and
2-4 cultivars on display; the Master Gardeners Club Demonstration
2-5 Garden, on the former site of Aqua Vitae Park, was developed by the
2-6 Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service on behalf of the city and
2-7 Nacogdoches County; and

2-8 WHEREAS, The thoughtful cultivation of the splendor of nature
2-9 is one of the most sublime expressions of the human spirit, and the
2-10 skill and devotion with which the city of Nacogdoches has for many
2-11 years showcased its lovely trees and flowering plants is indeed
2-12 deserving of special recognition; now, therefore, be it

2-13 RESOLVED, That the 83rd Legislature of the State of Texas
2-14 hereby designate Nacogdoches as the official Garden Capital of
2-15 Texas.

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