

1-1 By: King of Hemphill, et al. H.C.R. No. 51
 1-2 (Senate Sponsor - Seliger)
 1-3 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 3, 2013;
 1-4 May 6, 2013, read first time and referred to Committee on
 1-5 Administration; May 15, 2013, reported favorably by the following
 1-6 vote: Yeas 4, Nays 0; May 15, 2013, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11			X	
1-12	X			
1-13			X	
1-14			X	
1-15	X			

1-16 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-17 WHEREAS, The names of certain individuals stand out boldly in
 1-18 the history of the Lone Star State, and for more than a century, the
 1-19 life of famed rancher Charles Goodnight has inspired generations of
 1-20 Texans; and

1-21 WHEREAS, Born on March 5, 1836, to Charles and Charlotte
 1-22 Goodnight in Macoupin County, Illinois, young Charles Goodnight
 1-23 joined his family in 1845 on the 800-mile journey to Milam County,
 1-24 Texas, where the boy arrived riding bareback on a white-faced mare
 1-25 named Blaze; from an early age, he learned the virtue of hard work,
 1-26 laboring as a farmhand, racing as a jockey, and hauling freight with
 1-27 teams of oxen; and

1-28 WHEREAS, Mr. Goodnight entered into a partnership with his
 1-29 stepbrother, John Wesley Sheek, in 1856 to raise 400 head of cattle
 1-30 in the Brazos Valley; in the late 1850s, he met Oliver Loving, and
 1-31 together the two young men drove a herd to the gold rush camps in
 1-32 Colorado before the Civil War; during the 1860s, he worked as a
 1-33 scout for the Texas Rangers, taking part in the Comanche wars and
 1-34 fighting outlaws along the Colorado and Brazos Rivers; and

1-35 WHEREAS, After his service with the Rangers, Mr. Goodnight
 1-36 returned to the cattle business, and in 1866, he, Mr. Loving, and 18
 1-37 cowhands drove a herd from Fort Belknap, Texas, to Fort Sumner, New
 1-38 Mexico, and the route they forged became known as the
 1-39 Goodnight-Loving Trail, one of the most heavily trafficked cattle
 1-40 trails in the Southwest; Charles Goodnight is also credited with
 1-41 inventing the chuck wagon during that legendary drive; and

1-42 WHEREAS, In 1870, he married Mary Ann "Molly" Dyer, a
 1-43 schoolteacher, and the couple settled in Colorado for several years
 1-44 before returning to Texas; in 1876, he entered into a partnership
 1-45 with John G. Adair to set up the JA Ranch along Palo Duro Canyon,
 1-46 with Mr. Goodnight serving as resident manager and part owner of
 1-47 the operation; over the next 11 years, he increased the ranch's herd
 1-48 and expanded its range and helped establish law and order in the
 1-49 Panhandle; he pioneered the use of many new techniques and
 1-50 inventions, including artificial watering facilities, barbed wire
 1-51 fences, and the development of Hereford bulls through
 1-52 crossbreeding; he also created one of the first western
 1-53 sidesaddles, for use by his wife; and

1-54 WHEREAS, From 1887 to 1926, Charles and Molly Goodnight lived
 1-55 in a spacious, two-story ranch house on the Goodnight Ranch near the
 1-56 Salt Fork of the Red River; when his wife became distressed at the
 1-57 decline of the southern herd of native bison, Mr. Goodnight took up
 1-58 their cause, breeding them on his ranch and shipping buffalo to
 1-59 Yellowstone National Park and to zoos on the East Coast and in
 1-60 Europe; he also raised other animals and performed agricultural
 1-61 experiments with the encouragement of botanist Luther Burbank; and

2-1 WHEREAS, Molly Goodnight died in 1926, and Charles Goodnight
2-2 followed her three years later at the age of 93, and they are buried
2-3 together in the Goodnight Cemetery, not far from the ranch they
2-4 called home for nearly 40 years; the descendants of the Goodnights'
2-5 buffalo live on as the Official State Bison Herd of Texas at Caprock
2-6 Canyons State Park, and the legacy of Charles Goodnight, pioneer,
2-7 cattleman, and naturalist, will endure as long as the Lone Star
2-8 shines bright over Texas; now, therefore, be it

2-9 RESOLVED, That the 83rd Legislature of the State of Texas
2-10 hereby designate March 5 as Charles Goodnight Day; and, be it
2-11 further

2-12 RESOLVED, That in accordance with the provisions of Section
2-13 391.004(d), Government Code, this designation remains in effect
2-14 until the 10th anniversary of the date this resolution is passed.

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