

By: Springer

H.C.R. No. 83

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, St. Patrick's Day is commemorated every year by
2 people of Irish ancestry all over the world, and each March for
3 nearly 75 years, the city of Shamrock in the Panhandle has drawn
4 countless visitors for its celebration of all things Irish; and

5 WHEREAS, Named by immigrant sheep rancher George Nickel in
6 honor of his native land, Shamrock is home to an annual
7 St. Patrick's Day gathering that was started in 1938 by Glen Truax,
8 the town's bandmaster; sponsored by the Shamrock Booster Club, the
9 first festival was a success, featuring 12 bands and drawing
10 several thousand people; and

11 WHEREAS, The festival continued to grow until it was put on
12 hold during World War II; revived by the American Legion and the
13 Junior Chamber of Commerce in 1950, it was canceled again in 1951
14 because of the Korean War, but in 1952, the Shamrock Chamber of
15 Commerce took over the event, and it has continued to be held
16 throughout the ensuing years; and

17 WHEREAS, Today, the Shamrock St. Patrick's Day festival
18 lasts several days, starting with a kickoff banquet and a dance,
19 followed by such events as a carnival, a fun run, an arts and crafts
20 exhibition, a vintage car show, an Old Settlers reunion, a Donegal
21 beard-growing competition, and the crowning of Miss Irish Rose, all
22 done with a distinctively Hibernian flair; and

23 WHEREAS, Every spring, the Shamrock St. Patrick's Day event
24 combines the best of Irish and Texas high spirits, making it one of

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1 the most unique and colorful community celebrations in the Lone
2 Star State; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the 83rd Legislature of the State of Texas
4 hereby designate the Shamrock St. Patrick's Day Celebration as the
5 official St. Patrick's Day Celebration for the State of Texas.