

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Many proud citizens of Van Zandt County are
2 gathering at the State Capitol on February 20, 2013, to celebrate
3 the significant part they and their forebears have played in the
4 development of the Lone Star State; and

5 WHEREAS, Created by an Act of the Texas Legislature on March
6 20, 1847, this Northeast Texas county was named for Isaac Van Zandt,
7 a Republic of Texas lawyer, legislator, and diplomat; and

8 WHEREAS, Canton, the county seat, was laid out in 1850 and
9 incorporated in 1919; named a Main Street City in 2001, it is home
10 to the Van Zandt County Fair and First Monday Trade Days, one of the
11 country's best-known flea markets; a library of genealogy and local
12 history is also a popular attraction and preserves much of the
13 county's notable heritage; and

14 WHEREAS, The development of this fascinating area can be
15 traced in a number of other communities as well; Edgewood, settled
16 in the 1840s, boasts the Edgewood Heritage Park Museum, a facility
17 dedicated to the preservation of rural cultural and architectural
18 history; and

19 WHEREAS, Edom, established in 1856, is one of the oldest
20 towns in the county, and its past is highlighted by 11 state
21 historical markers, many of them researched by members of the Edom
22 Historical Society; the residents of this small community also give
23 hearty support to an active civic theater; and

24 WHEREAS, Fruit cultivation prompted the naming of Fruitvale,

1 where a nursery operated as early as the 1870s; several generations
2 in this century-old town treasured the Randall Store, a local
3 institution first opened in 1910; and

4 WHEREAS, Grand Saline, originally called Jordan's Saline,
5 the first Van Zandt County seat, takes its name from an immense dome
6 of pure salt lying beneath the city; more than a mile and a half wide
7 and 20,000 feet thick, the deposit is presently mined by Morton Salt
8 Company; the city celebrates salt with an annual Salt Festival;
9 those exploring this 2004 Main Street City can tour the Salt Palace
10 Museum, which is built with rock salt crystal, stop by the
11 historical marker commemorating native son and renowned pioneer
12 aviator Wiley Post, and visit the new Veterans Memorial Wall Park,
13 featuring a genuine U.S. Army tank; and

14 WHEREAS, Van, established in 1891, remained a quiet farming
15 community until 1929, when the discovery of oil nearby transformed
16 the village into a boomtown; the Van Area Oil and Historical Museum
17 recaptures the excitement of that frenetic time and commemorates
18 the discovery with an annual Oil Festival; and

19 WHEREAS, Wills Point, settled in 1873 and originally known as
20 Iola, was renamed for William Wills, whose cabin served as a
21 stopping place for those traveling between Shreveport and Dallas;
22 the Wills cabin still stands, as does the Texas and Pacific Railroad
23 depot, which houses the Historical Society Museum; Wills Point,
24 which is officially the Bluebird Capital of Texas, hosts the annual
25 Bluebird Festival; and

26 WHEREAS, Ben Wheeler, surrounded by natural springs and rich
27 farmland, was named for Van Zandt County's first mail carrier,

1 Benjamin R. Wheeler, in 1876; and

2 WHEREAS, Martins Mill, which got its name from Dan R.
3 Martin's gristmill, was established in 1880 and is home to one of
4 the largest dairies in East Texas; the community survived
5 destruction by tornadoes and fires and today boasts a successful
6 school district; and

7 WHEREAS, Major events in the county include the Texas State
8 Bluegrass Festival, the Edom Festival of the Arts, and the Van Zandt
9 County Relay for Life; for the outdoor enthusiast, the Neches and
10 Sabine Rivers, Purtis Creek State Park, and Lake Tawakoni State
11 Park offer wonderful opportunities for fishing, boating, swimming,
12 and camping; and

13 WHEREAS, The home of more than 52,000 people, Van Zandt
14 County relies on tourism, oil, and agribusiness; the area is a major
15 producer of hay, blueberries, sweet potatoes, and nursery crops, in
16 addition to cattle, horses, hogs, and dairy products; and

17 WHEREAS, The citizens of Van Zandt County take justifiable
18 pride in the hard work and ready cooperation that have made their
19 county strong, and it is a pleasure to join them in honoring the
20 county they are proud to call home; now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
22 Legislature hereby recognize February 20, 2013, as Van Zandt County
23 Day at the State Capitol and extend sincere best wishes to the
24 visiting Van Zandt residents for an informative and memorable day.

Flynn

Straus	M. Gonzalez of El Paso	Oliveira
Allen	N. Gonzalez of El Paso	Orr
Alonzo	Gooden	Otto
Alvarado	Guerra	Paddie
Anchia	Guillen	Parker
Anderson	Gutierrez	Patrick
Ashby	Harless	Perez
Aycock	Harper-Brown	Perry
Bell	Hernandez Luna	Phillips
Bohac	Herrero	Pickett
Bonnen of Brazoria	Hilderbran	Pitts
Bonnen of Galveston	Howard	Price
Branch	Huberty	Raney
Burkett	Hughes	Ratliff
Burnam	Hunter	Raymond
Button	Isaac	Reynolds
Callegari	Johnson	Riddle
Canales	Kacal	Ritter
Capriglione	Keffer	Rodriguez of Bexar
Carter	King of Hemphill	Rodriguez of Travis
Clardy	King of Parker	Rose
Coleman	King of Taylor	Sanford
Collier	King of Zavala	Schaefer
Cook	Kleinschmidt	Sheets
Cortez	Klick	Sheffield of Bell
Craddick	Kolkhorst	Sheffield of Coryell
Creighton	Krause	Simmons
Crownover	Kuempel	Simpson
Dale	Larson	Smith
Darby	Laubenberg	Smithee
Davis of Dallas	Lavender	Springer
J. Davis of Harris	Leach	Stephenson
S. Davis of Harris	Lewis	Stickland
Deshotel	Longoria	Strama
Dukes	Lozano	Taylor
Dutton	Lucio III	Thompson of Brazoria
Eiland	Marquez	Thompson of Harris
Elkins	Martinez	Toth
Fallon	Martinez Fischer	Turner of Collin
Farias	McClendon	Turner of Harris
Farney	Menendez	Turner of Tarrant
Farrar	Miles	Villalba
Fletcher	Miller of Comal	Villarreal
Flynn	Miller of Fort Bend	Vo
Frank	Moody	Walle
Frullo	Morrison	White
Geren	Munoz, Jr.	Workman
Giddings	Murphy	Wu
Goldman	Naishtat	Zedler
Gonzales	Nevarez	Zerwas

H.R. No. 133

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 133 was adopted by the House on February 18, 2013, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House