

By: Darby

H.R. No. 236

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Citizens from Howard County are gathering in Austin
2 to celebrate Howard County Day at the State Capitol on February 5,
3 2013; and

4 WHEREAS, Nestled between the Caprock escarpment and the
5 Edwards Plateau, this scenic region of the West Texas High Plains is
6 home to the "big spring" in Sulphur Draw; the nearby town of Big
7 Spring began as a settlement of buffalo hunters in the 1870s; and

8 WHEREAS, Howard County was organized in 1882, with Big Spring
9 as the county seat; situated on the Texas and Pacific Railway, the
10 town also became an important shipping point for livestock and
11 produce; the community of Coahoma developed as a trading center
12 with the arrival of the railroad in the early 1880s, while Forsan
13 was established at the height of the county's oil boom in the 1920s;
14 during World War II, Howard County became the site of the Big Spring
15 Army Air Corps Bombardier School, which trained more than 5,000
16 men; and

17 WHEREAS, Today, Howard County continues to thrive as a center
18 for oil and gas production, farming and ranching, transportation,
19 and manufacturing; the county looks to the future of energy
20 production with its four wind turbine farms, and the
21 McMahan-Wrinkle Airport further contributes to the area's economy;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, A regional hub for health care and quality
24 education, Big Spring is home to a veterans hospital, a state mental

1 health facility, and a rehabilitation center, as well as Howard
2 College and the Southwest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf; and

3 WHEREAS, Visitors and residents alike enjoy fine
4 opportunities for recreation at Big Spring State Park and Comanche
5 Trail Park, where the annual Festival of Lights is held, and the
6 region's colorful past is celebrated at the Heritage Museum and the
7 Hangar 25 Air Museum; the town also plays host to the Annual Big
8 Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo; and

9 WHEREAS, Deeply devoted to their communities and to the land
10 that has shaped them, the people of Howard County may take
11 justifiable pride in all that they have accomplished over the
12 years, knowing that the robust spirit of earlier generations is
13 alive and well in their own; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
15 Legislature hereby recognize February 5, 2013, as Howard County Day
16 at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation sincere
17 best wishes for a meaningful and memorable stay in Austin.