

By: Raney

H.R. No. 254

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of the Bryan-College Station area
2 are gathering in Austin on February 6, 2013, to celebrate
3 Bryan-College Station Day at the State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, Located among the gentle, rolling hills of the
5 Brazos Valley, this part of east-central Texas was encompassed in
6 the land grant that Stephen F. Austin received in 1825; one of
7 Austin's nephews, William Joel Bryan, donated land for a town site
8 in 1859, and the new settlement was named in his honor; surrounded
9 by fertile farmlands and served by the railroad from the late 1860s
10 onward, Bryan became an important commercial center and was
11 formally incorporated in 1872; and

12 WHEREAS, Just south of Bryan, a defining event occurred in
13 1876 when the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas opened
14 its doors to students for the first time; the community that grew up
15 adjacent to the new school took its name, College Station, from the
16 post office that was established there, along the railway, in 1887;
17 home to many faculty members, the town expanded northward through
18 the years, aided in part by an electric railway that linked it to
19 Bryan in the early 1900s, and the community incorporated in 1938;
20 growing in conjunction with the university, College Station saw a
21 sixfold increase in its population between 1960 and 2000; and

22 WHEREAS, Texas A&M is one of the largest public universities
23 in the United States and ranks among the nation's leaders in
24 academic research; students from around the globe pursue degrees in

1 diverse areas of study, and this international presence infuses
2 additional vibrancy into a school already rich in tradition and
3 spirit; former A&M students have achieved distinction in many
4 fields of endeavor, and five individuals affiliated with the
5 university have earned the Nobel Prize; the university also
6 benefits from the loyal backing of a legion of students, alumni, and
7 other supporters, who know Bryan-College Station affectionately as
8 Aggieland; and

9 WHEREAS, The George Bush Presidential Library and Museum on
10 the university campus is the area's leading tourist attraction and
11 has received almost 700,000 visitors since it opened in 1997; as the
12 repository of more than 100,000 artifacts, the library and museum
13 document the career and accomplishments of the nation's 41st
14 president while promoting civic literacy and fostering
15 volunteerism and an interest in public service; a number of other
16 outstanding museums and galleries are located in Bryan-College
17 Station as well, making the area a thriving center for cultural
18 activities; and

19 WHEREAS, Excellent shopping and dining locations abound in
20 the two cities, and the many beautiful parks offer residents and
21 visitors opportunities for a range of recreational and leisure
22 pursuits; together, Bryan and College Station afford the amenities
23 of a dynamic metropolitan area while also providing the charm and
24 warmth that are typical of small towns, and this combination helps
25 make these adjoining communities a unique, prosperous, and
26 enjoyable part of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas

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1 Legislature hereby recognize February 6, 2013, as Bryan-College
2 Station Day at the State Capitol and extend to the members of the
3 visiting delegation sincere best wishes for a rewarding visit to
4 Austin.