

By: Phillips

H.R. No. 258

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Residents of Fannin County are gathering at the
2 Texas State Capitol on February 13, 2013, to celebrate Fannin
3 County Day, and this occasion provides an opportunity to recognize
4 the rich history and significant accomplishments of this attractive
5 part of the Lone Star State; and

6 WHEREAS, The first nonnative settlements in the area that
7 would become Fannin County were established in 1836, the year Texas
8 won its independence from Mexico; when the county was formed the
9 following year, it took its name from Colonel James Walker Fannin,
10 Jr., a commander in the Texas revolutionary army, who had been
11 killed in the Goliad Massacre; Bonham, the county seat, was named
12 for another hero of the Texas Revolution, James Bonham, who died at
13 the Alamo and who is now honored with a statue at the county
14 courthouse; and

15 WHEREAS, A land of gently rolling hills that are bounded by
16 the Red River to the north, Fannin County provides good land for
17 farming and ranching, and those pursuits have been economic
18 mainstays since the county was established; today, cattle, corn,
19 wheat, milo, pecans, and hay are key products, and the many acres of
20 farmland in the county create a tranquil, pastoral landscape; other
21 industries, such as communications and manufacturing, help to
22 strengthen and diversify the economy; and

23 WHEREAS, Bonham, with a population of approximately 10,000,
24 is the county's largest city; it was the hometown of Sam Rayburn,

1 the legendary Texas politician who was a member of Congress for 48
2 years and who still ranks as the longest-serving speaker of the U.S.
3 House of Representatives; his legacy is recalled at the Sam Rayburn
4 Library and Museum and at the Sam Rayburn House Museum; Bonham is
5 also the site of the Fannin County Museum of History, the Creative
6 Arts Center, and Fort English Park, which contains several restored
7 log cabins from the 1830s and a replica of the stockade erected in
8 the vicinity by early settlers; and

9 WHEREAS, The county also offers a number of attractions for
10 outdoor enthusiasts; Lake Bonham comprises more than 1,000 acres of
11 water and is bordered by a golf course and camping facilities;
12 additional lakes are found at Bonham State Park and the Caddo
13 National Grasslands preserve, which offer opportunities for
14 hiking, fishing, biking, and other activities; and

15 WHEREAS, Fannin County's nearly 34,000 residents can take
16 pride in their area's rich history, productive businesses, and
17 abundant recreational activities, and it is an honor to pay tribute
18 to their many contributions to the State of Texas; now, therefore,
19 be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
21 Legislature hereby recognize February 13, 2013, as Fannin County
22 Day at the State Capitol and extend to the visitors from that
23 notable Texas county sincere best wishes for an enjoyable and
24 rewarding visit to Austin.