

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Each year, St. Patrick's Day is celebrated on March
2 17, and this occasion provides a welcome opportunity to honor the
3 origins of the event and to highlight the many contributions that
4 individuals of Irish descent have made to the Lone Star State; and

5 WHEREAS, Born into a wealthy Romano-British family in the 4th
6 century, St. Patrick was kidnapped at the age of 16 by Irish raiders
7 and taken captive to the Emerald Isle; according to his writings,
8 divine intervention allowed him to escape, and he entered the
9 priesthood soon after; he later returned to Ireland and spent
10 nearly 30 years teaching the island's residents about his faith,
11 thereby becoming the principal champion of Irish Christianity in
12 legend and folklore; St. Patrick's Day, which commemorates the day
13 of his death in 461, has become a celebration of Irish heritage
14 around the world, and in recent decades the government of Ireland
15 has made the observance a centerpiece of its efforts to showcase the
16 country and its culture; and

17 WHEREAS, One of the earliest Irish residents of Texas was
18 Hugh O'Connor, who served as governor of the Spanish territory from
19 1767 to 1770; natives of Ireland also played a central role in the
20 settlement of Texas in the early 1800s, including empresarios James
21 McGloin, John McMullen, and James Power, who brought dozens of
22 Irish families to South Texas and the Gulf Coast; and

23 WHEREAS, All three of these men participated in the Texas
24 Revolution, as did Irishmen such as John Joseph Linn, Francis

1 Moore, Jr., and Thomas William Ward; a dozen individuals from the
2 Emerald Isle died defending the Alamo, and 100 Irish-born troops
3 helped win the independence of Texas in the decisive Battle of San
4 Jacinto; and

5 WHEREAS, The number of immigrants from Ireland grew
6 dramatically in the mid-1800s, and several prominent Irish natives
7 made their mark during that period; Samuel McKinney was an early
8 president of Austin College, Father Michael Sheehan established the
9 first Catholic church in Austin and became one of the first
10 full-time Catholic chaplains in the U.S. Army, and Peter Gallagher
11 served as a Texas Ranger and helped organize Pecos County; later in
12 the 19th century, Irishman John William Mallet served as the first
13 faculty chair at The University of Texas at Austin, and artist Henry
14 Arthur McArdle produced many famous paintings inspired by Texas
15 history, some of which now hang in the State Capitol; and

16 WHEREAS, With the passing decades, additional people from
17 Ireland found a new home in Texas, and they and the descendants of
18 previous immigrants have had an enduring influence on the state's
19 lifestyle and development; today, Irish culture is celebrated in
20 formal programs such as the Center for Irish Studies at the
21 University of St. Thomas in Houston, as well as in statewide
22 St. Patrick's Day celebrations, and it is appropriate to join in
23 recognizing the significant role that Irish Americans have played
24 in the story of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

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1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
2 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the state's vital Irish heritage
3 and extend Happy St. Patrick's Day wishes to all Irish Americans.

Murphy
Fallon

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

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 356 was adopted by the House on February 28, 2013, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House