

By: Bell

H.R. No. 377

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Members and supporters of the Joanna Troutman
2 Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution are gathering
3 at the Texas State Cemetery on February 26, 2013, to mark the 100th
4 anniversary of the reinterment of their organization's namesake;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Born on February 19, 1818, in Crawford County,
7 Georgia, Joanna Troutman was 17 years old when a battalion of
8 volunteers from her home state responded to an appeal from Texas for
9 support in its struggle against the Mexican Republic; inspired by
10 the Texas cause, she designed and sewed a flag consisting of an
11 embroidered blue star on a field of white silk; below the
12 five-pointed star were the words: "LIBERTY OR DEATH" and the
13 reverse of the banner bore the Latin motto: "UBI LIBERTAS HABITAT,
14 IBI NOSTRA PATRIA EST," or "where liberty dwells, there is our
15 country"; and

16 WHEREAS, The Georgia battalion carried Ms. Troutman's flag
17 with them when they entered Texas in December 1835 and this symbol
18 of Texas' lone struggle against tyranny was unfurled at Velasco on
19 January 8, 1836, above the American Hotel; James W. Fannin, Jr.,
20 flew it as the national flag over the walls of Goliad when he heard
21 of the Texas Declaration of Independence on March 8, 1836; the flag
22 was torn, but its remnants witnessed the infamous Goliad Massacre
23 that soon followed; and

24 WHEREAS, In 1839, Ms. Troutman married S. L. Pope and the

1 couple moved to Elmwood, a prosperous plantation near Knoxville,
2 Georgia; after Mr. Pope's passing in 1872, she married state
3 legislator W. G. Vinson; although she died in 1879, Ms. Troutman
4 lived long enough to witness Texas prosper as an independent nation
5 and as a strong member of the United States; in 1913, Texas governor
6 Oscar B. Colquitt secured permission to have her remains moved from
7 Georgia to Texas for interment in the state cemetery of Austin,
8 where a bronze statue and historical marker continue to honor her
9 today; and

10 WHEREAS, Joanna Troutman truly exemplified and defined the
11 spirit of the Lone Star State and her memory holds a cherished place
12 in the hearts of all Texans; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
14 Legislature hereby recognize the 100th anniversary of Joanna
15 Troutman's reinterment and extend to all those involved with the
16 event sincere best wishes for a successful and memorable ceremony;
17 and, be it further

18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
19 prepared for the Joanna Troutman Chapter of the Daughters of the
20 American Revolution as an expression of high regard by the Texas
21 House of Representatives.