

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The office of justice of the peace, first  
2 established in 1362 by King Edward of England, and the office of  
3 constable, first established in 1215 by King John of England, were  
4 two of the first offices established in the American colonies in  
5 1620; and

6           WHEREAS, Both offices were created by the Texas Constitution  
7 and serve a vital role in the delivery of county government  
8 responsibilities to citizens on the local level; and

9           WHEREAS, The justices of the peace are an integral part of the  
10 Texas judiciary; they exercise jurisdiction in criminal  
11 misdemeanor cases punishable by fine or sanctions and exercise  
12 civil jurisdiction in matters in controversy up to \$10,000;  
13 justices of the peace preside over those courts closest to the  
14 people, first established as "grass roots" courts in 1836 when  
15 Texas became a republic; and

16           WHEREAS, The constables serve as officers of the court as  
17 bailiffs, execute civil and criminal process issued by Texas  
18 courts, and enforce criminal laws as certified peace officers;  
19 constables were first documented in Texas in 1823 by Stephen F.  
20 Austin when Texas was still under Mexican rule; and

21           WHEREAS, The men and women who accept the responsibilities of  
22 the offices of justice of the peace and constable perform the duties  
23 of their office with integrity, dedication, and the required  
24 knowledge of the law, thereby contributing immeasurably to the

1 justice system, the safety of the citizens of Texas, and the peace  
2 and order of our society; and

3 WHEREAS, The Justices of the Peace and Constables Association  
4 of Texas, Incorporated, has represented the interests of more than  
5 4,000 Texas justices of the peace, constables, and members of their  
6 staffs for over 60 years; and

7 WHEREAS, The dedication of a special day to focus attention  
8 on the contributions of these public officials will benefit the  
9 citizens of Texas; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
11 Legislature hereby recognize February 26, 2013, as Justices of the  
12 Peace and Constables Day, welcome the visiting members of the  
13 Justices of the Peace and Constables Association of Texas,  
14 Incorporated, to the State Capitol, and commend the justices of the  
15 peace and constables for serving and protecting the citizens of  
16 Texas; and, be it further

17 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
18 prepared for the Justices of the Peace and Constables Association  
19 of Texas, Incorporated, as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
20 House of Representatives.

Alonzo

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

H.R. No. 523

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 523 was adopted by the House on February 25, 2013, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House