H.R. No. 539

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Proud residents of Graham and members of the city's
chamber of commerce are gathering in Austin on February 26, 2013, to
celebrate Graham Day at the State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, Situated in the North Texas hill country, the Graham area was originally part of Fort Belknap, the northern anchor of a series of U.S. Army forts built to protect the Texas frontier; the fort was decommissioned in 1859, and the town of Graham was officially established in 1872, taking its name from the two industrious brothers who first settled it, Gustavous and Edwin Graham; and

11 WHEREAS, Today, Graham is the county seat of Young County, 12 and its nearly 9,000 citizens enjoy the best of small-town living 13 with city conveniences; the rugged terrain of the region, with its 14 dense woods, cultivated fields, and creeks, provides the backdrop 15 for one of the best game hunting areas in Texas, while the city's 16 perfectly groomed golf courses are also considered among the finest 17 in the state; and

WHEREAS, Visitors and residents alike can enjoy a myriad of activities throughout the region, including fishing at the connected lakes, Lake Graham and Lake Eddleman, taking a walking tour through the city's historic town square, one of the largest in America, and watching a film underneath the summer sky at the drive-in movie theater; and

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WHEREAS, The city also boasts a vibrant oil and gas industry,

1

H.R. No. 539

which dates back to the founding Graham brothers, who drilled one of the first gas wells in Texas after having stumbled upon it while looking for salt water; to invest in the future of the industry and the area's workforce, North Central Texas College now offers a new and groundbreaking curriculum in oil and gas technology; and

6 WHEREAS, Graham's city council is similarly invested in 7 forward-thinking policies to ensure the area's success, including 8 investing in major water treatment and distribution projects and 9 hospital technology; the arts are also a priority, and renovation 10 of the historic Graham Memorial Auditorium, which was built in 1929 11 to honor veterans of World War I, is ongoing; and

12 WHEREAS, Deeply devoted to their community and to the history 13 that has shaped them, residents of Graham may reflect with pride on 14 the many contributions they have made toward building a vibrant 15 future for their families and neighbors; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas 17 Legislature hereby recognize February 26, 2013, as Graham Day at 18 the State Capitol.

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2

H.R. No. 539

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 539 was adopted by the House on February 25, 2013, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House