

By: Kolkhorst

H.R. No. 621

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, March 6, 2013, is Austin County Day, providing a  
2 fitting opportunity to recognize the county and welcome its  
3 citizens to the State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, The area that would become Austin County was one of  
5 the locations settled by the initial colonists who were brought to  
6 Texas by Stephen F. Austin; the first English-language newspaper in  
7 Texas, the *Gazette*, was started in 1829 in the colony's main town,  
8 San Felipe de Austin; this settlement played an important part in  
9 the Texas Revolution, briefly serving as capital of the provisional  
10 government; and

11 WHEREAS, San Felipe became the county seat on the  
12 establishment of Austin County in 1837, but in 1846 voters chose to  
13 move the government to the more centrally located town of  
14 Bellville; the county's growth was fueled as Czech and German  
15 immigrants settled in the region, establishing new lives in a new  
16 land and contributing their time-honored traditions and values to  
17 further enrich the culture of Texas; and

18 WHEREAS, Today, reminders of these early days can be found  
19 throughout the area; the San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site,  
20 "The Colonial Capital of Texas," provides a glimpse into the life of  
21 Stephen F. Austin and his fellow pioneers; visitors may also  
22 appreciate the many turn-of-the-century homes and buildings  
23 preserved by the Bellville Historical Society and the Austin County  
24 Jail Museum houses rotating exhibits on local culture; and

1           WHEREAS, Tourism and manufacturing contribute to the  
2 county's economy, while agribusiness is the major commercial  
3 activity; outdoor enthusiasts enjoy the hiking, fishing, and  
4 opportunities for other recreation that are available in Stephen F.  
5 Austin State Park; and

6           WHEREAS, Celebrating their rich history as they look forward  
7 to a bright future, the residents of Austin County can take  
8 justifiable pride in their heritage and their continuing  
9 contributions to the prosperity of the Lone Star State; now,  
10 therefore, be it

11          RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
12 Legislature hereby recognize March 6, 2013, as Austin County Day  
13 and extend to the county delegation sincere best wishes for an  
14 enjoyable and rewarding visit to the State Capitol.