

By: Flynn

H.R. No. 636

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Hopkins County are gathering in
2 Austin on February 28, 2013, to celebrate Hopkins County Day at the
3 State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, Hopkins County has an area of 789 square miles with
5 both blackland prairie and piney wood terrain; originally inhabited
6 by the Caddo and then the Cherokee people, the county was created in
7 1846 and named for a family of pioneers; Sulphur Springs was made
8 the county seat in 1870; and

9 WHEREAS, Corn, wheat, sheep, and cattle were important in the
10 19th century, but cotton became the dominant crop between 1890 and
11 1930; in 1937 the Carnation Milk Company opened a processing plant
12 in the county, and its presence, in conjunction with better road and
13 rail transportation, allowed dairy farming to become the major
14 agricultural undertaking; in 1990 the county boasted nearly 500
15 dairies supplying 17 percent of the state's total milk; and

16 WHEREAS, Today, Hopkins County has a population of over
17 35,000, with more than 15,000 people residing in Sulphur Springs;
18 along with dairy production, tourism and food processing and
19 distribution are mainstays of the economy, as are beef cattle and
20 breeding horses; and

21 WHEREAS, Sulphur Springs features a number of popular
22 attractions, including the Southwest Dairy Center and Museum, the
23 Leo St. Clair Music Box Museum, and the Hopkins County Heritage
24 Museum and Park; one of the city's newest downtown features, the

1 striking all-glass restroom, has drawn national attention and is
2 the first of its kind in the United States; moreover, the area is a
3 well-known center for aquatic recreation, with Lake Fork and Cooper
4 Lake State Park offering opportunities for trophy bass fishing, as
5 well as boating and swimming; bird-watchers, hikers, and campers
6 also seek out the county, and special events like the Texas State
7 Champion Homemade Ice Cream Freeze Off at the Hopkins County Dairy
8 Festival in June are enjoyed by residents and visitors alike; and

9 WHEREAS, Hopkins County is one of the Lone Star State's true
10 treasures, and its citizens justifiably take great pride in the
11 history and character of their splendid communities; now,
12 therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
14 Legislature hereby recognize February 28, 2013, as Hopkins County
15 Day at the State Capitol and extend sincere best wishes to the
16 visiting delegation for an informative and enjoyable stay in
17 Austin.