

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is marking
2 its 50th anniversary in 2013, and this milestone provides a fitting
3 opportunity to recognize its accomplishments; and

4 WHEREAS, On August 23, 1963, the 58th Texas Legislature
5 merged the operations of the Texas Game and Fish Commission and the
6 State Parks Board to create the Parks and Wildlife Department; the
7 new agency's first challenge was to improve and expand the park
8 system, and between 1968 and 1976, the acreage of parkland owned by
9 the state was nearly doubled; and

10 WHEREAS, Parks and Wildlife assumed responsibility for the
11 administration of the Texas Water Safety Act and of the Land and
12 Water Conservation Fund beginning in the 1960s and later
13 implemented the provisions of the Texas Endangered Species and
14 Wildlife Conservation Acts; and

15 WHEREAS, By the late 1980s, the Texas parks system
16 encompassed well over 400,000 acres, including parks, natural
17 areas, and historic sites; the department also protected and
18 managed the fish population in more than 600 public reservoirs and
19 16,000 miles of streams and rivers, as well as along 370 miles of
20 coastline; and

21 WHEREAS, Park use continued to rise, with more than 20
22 million people visiting on an annual basis by the 1990s; the
23 agency's staff and administration have worked diligently through
24 the years to meet the challenges presented by population growth and

1 urbanization, partnering with diverse entities to conserve natural
2 and cultural resources and enhance opportunities for outdoor
3 recreation; and

4 WHEREAS, Over the past half-century, the vital endeavors of
5 the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department have enriched the lives of
6 innumerable citizens, and the agency has earned the profound
7 appreciation of all who treasure the natural beauty of the Lone Star
8 State; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
10 Legislature hereby commemorate the 50th anniversary of the
11 establishment of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and honor
12 the staff and administration for their hard work and dedication on
13 its behalf; and, be it further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
15 prepared for the department as an expression of high regard by the
16 Texas House of Representatives.

Guillen

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. 878

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 878 was adopted by the House on March 27, 2013, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House