

By: Dale

H.R. No. 1470

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Williamson County are coming
2 together in Austin to celebrate Williamson County Day at the State
3 Capitol on April 23, 2013; and

4 WHEREAS, Originally home to the Tonkawa Indians, this region
5 of rolling brushland and coastal plains was first settled by Anglo
6 Americans in the 1830s; Williamson County was established in 1848
7 and named for Robert M. Williamson, a judge and soldier; Georgetown
8 was founded that same year and named as county seat; and

9 WHEREAS, Today, Williamson County is among the
10 fastest-growing counties in the nation, with a population of more
11 than 450,000; a center for higher education, it is home to campuses
12 of Southwestern University, Texas State University-Round Rock
13 Higher Education Center, and Austin Community College; the county
14 also boasts the Texas A&M Health Science Center and the Texas
15 Life-Sciences Collaboration Center, which is drawing emerging
16 biotech, nanotech, and medical device companies to the region; in
17 2013, Williamson was ranked as the healthiest county in Texas by the
18 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; and

19 WHEREAS, With nearly 50,000 people, Georgetown has grown 67
20 percent since the last census, and the city has all the conveniences
21 of a modern community while preserving its small-town charm; over
22 180 homes and buildings in the town are listed on the National
23 Register of Historic Places, and residents and visitors alike
24 delight in its picturesque downtown and its many opportunities for

1 recreation; *Fortune* magazine selected it as the number two place in
2 the nation to live and launch a small business, and *CNN Money*
3 magazine named it among the top 25 Best Places to Retire; and

4 WHEREAS, Round Rock is the largest city in the county, with
5 more than 104,000 residents, and it is celebrating its centennial
6 in 2013; home to such major employers as Dell, TECO-Westinghouse
7 Motor Company, and Hospira, the city has won numerous accolades in
8 recent years; it placed second in the Milken Institute's 2012 list
9 of Best-Performing Cities in America, made the top 10 of CNBC.com's
10 Perfect Suburbs, and was ranked by CQ Press as the second safest
11 city in Texas and the 11th safest city in America with a population
12 over 100,000; and

13 WHEREAS, Founded in 1887 and incorporated in 1973, Cedar Park
14 has grown by more than 400 percent in the last 10 years; ideally
15 situated close to the amenities of Austin and the natural splendor
16 of the Hill Country, the city attracts new residents from around the
17 world with its 860 acres of parkland and its fine restaurants and
18 shops; it has been named by *Family Circle* magazine as one of the Top
19 Ten Places to Raise a Family; and

20 WHEREAS, Leander offers its residents a relaxed, Hill Country
21 lifestyle as well as easy access to the cultural and recreational
22 opportunities of the Austin area; the city is close to several
23 state-of-the-art medical facilities and institutions of higher
24 learning; the Greater Leander Chamber of Commerce has grown by more
25 than 400 percent since 2005, and the city's Economic Development
26 Department has successfully encouraged impressive new retail,
27 commercial, and industrial construction in recent years,

1 broadening and deepening the city's economic base; and

2 WHEREAS, Proud of its heritage as a farming center, today
3 Taylor is a rapidly growing, modern community; its residents
4 benefit from the access to education afforded by the East
5 Williamson County Higher Education Center, as well as the
6 opportunities for recreation at the city's hike and bike trails,
7 swimming pools, tennis courts, and Regional Park and Sports
8 Complex; the history and culture of the town are on display at the
9 Moody Museum, and visitors and residents alike take delight in such
10 annual events as the Taylor Zest Fest, the Rattlesnake Roundup, and
11 the rodeo; and

12 WHEREAS, Blessed with a thriving economy and an exceptional
13 quality of life, Williamson County is justly celebrated for the
14 can-do spirit and civic engagement of its people, who are working
15 every day to create a bright and exciting future; now, therefore, be
16 it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
18 Legislature hereby recognize April 23, 2013, as Williamson County
19 Day at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation
20 sincere best wishes for a memorable and meaningful day in Austin.