

By: Frank

H.R. No. 1784

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Cyclists are gearing up for the Hotter'N Hell
2 Hundred bike ride in Wichita Falls in August 2013, an annual event
3 that has attracted about 300,000 participants over the course of
4 the last three decades; and

5 WHEREAS, The Hotter'N Hell Hundred was first staged during
6 the town's centennial in 1982, with riders commemorating the 100th
7 anniversary by riding 100 miles in 100-degree weather; organized by
8 the Wichita Falls Bicycling Club and the centennial planning
9 committee, the inaugural countywide race drew 1,200 cyclists and
10 was, at the time, the largest single-day century ride in the nation;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, With each successive year, the HHH attracted greater
13 attention in Wichita Falls, throughout surrounding counties, and
14 beyond; volunteers, businesses, nonprofit groups, and service
15 organizations began helping coordinate the ride, and attendance
16 remained strong; by 1987, 11,000 people had taken part in the
17 challenge, and as time went by, it became a favorite destination for
18 fitness enthusiasts from across the United States and around the
19 world; and

20 WHEREAS, Now one of the nation's oldest and largest cycling
21 events, the HHH has expanded from a single-day to a four-day
22 gathering; among the features that have been added are
23 mountain-biking activities, trail runs, road and criterium races
24 sanctioned by USA Cycling, and a large trade show with food vendors

1 from around the country; and

2 WHEREAS, The number of volunteers has grown from 250 in the
3 first year to well over 5,000 in 2012, including 1,000 medical
4 personnel; embodying the strong community spirit in the local area,
5 the volunteers work to register riders, provide them with supplies,
6 attend to them at rest stops, and see them safely across the finish
7 line; any participants who are unable to complete the routes on
8 their own are driven to their destinations via volunteer-run sag
9 wagons; and

10 WHEREAS, Proceeds from the HHH are used to support a range of
11 worthwhile endeavors, including the development of parks, exercise
12 trails, and other public facilities; these contributions have, over
13 time, helped to rebuild the city's namesake waterfalls and to
14 construct the River Bend Nature Center and various historical
15 sculptures; the race has also underwritten scholarships for the
16 Midwestern State University Cycling Team and has benefited the Navy
17 Seabees and the U.S. Air Force at Sheppard Air Force Base, the
18 American Red Cross, the Children's Miracle Network, BikeTexas,
19 Wichita Falls Amateur Radio, and area police and fire departments;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, With its warm hospitality soothing the strain of its
22 rather inhospitable weather, the Hotter'N Hell Hundred has become
23 one of the classic cycling events in the United States and a
24 signature celebration for Wichita Falls, and it is indeed deserving
25 of special recognition; now, therefore, be it

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
27 Legislature hereby commemorate the 32nd annual Hotter'N Hell

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1 Hundred bicycle ride, honor the cyclists who have gamely set off at
2 the starting line over the past 31 years, and extend to all of the
3 race's riders, organizers, and volunteers sincere best wishes for a
4 successful and memorable event; and, be it further

5 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
6 prepared for the Hotter'N Hell Hundred as an expression of high
7 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.