

By: Hughes

H.R. No. 1875

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud citizens of Titus County are gathering at Lake
2 Bob Sandlin State Park on June 8, 2013, to celebrate the 175th
3 anniversary of the founding of Fort Sherman; and

4 WHEREAS, Sponsored by the Texas Parks and Wildlife
5 Department, the Titus County Historical Preservation Society, and
6 the Titus County Historical Commission, this commemoration will
7 feature historical reenactors in period costume who will provide
8 information about the fort's history and the lives of its
9 inhabitants; and

10 WHEREAS, Established by the Republic of Texas in 1838 near
11 the spot where the Cherokee Trace crossed Big Cypress Creek, Fort
12 Sherman was built as a log stockade by Captain William B. Stout and
13 a detachment of 42 Red River Mounted Rangers; the fort was named for
14 Colonel Sidney Sherman, a commander in the Texas Army at the Battle
15 of San Jacinto and the man who coined the battle cry "Remember the
16 Alamo!"; and

17 WHEREAS, Fort Sherman was the first community in Titus County
18 and home to the Bell, Blundell, Coots, Dial, Dragoo, Gibson, and
19 Harris families until 1841; it provided the local settlers with a
20 refuge from Indian attack, and it also served as a rest and resupply
21 depot for early units of the Texas Rangers; in the 1840s, it was a
22 polling place for several elections; and

23 WHEREAS, After the threat from Indians diminished, the fort
24 was abandoned, and when Major John Pollard Gaines stopped there

1 with his cavalry unit in 1846 on his way to join the
2 Mexican-American War, he noted in his diary that a peach orchard had
3 begun to grow up in its ruins; and

4 WHEREAS, The fort continued to appear on various maps as late
5 as 1873, and eventually local farmers salvaged the last remaining
6 timber from the fort for their own purposes; today, the site of this
7 historic outpost is located within Lake Bob Sandlin State Park,
8 which also includes the site of a cemetery from the same period as
9 the fort; and

10 WHEREAS, The efforts of the Texas Parks and Wildlife
11 Department, the Titus County Historical Preservation Society, and
12 the Titus County Historical Commission to remember the brave
13 Rangers who built Fort Sherman and the resilient and self-reliant
14 settlers who lived there will help keep the memory of this unique
15 frontier outpost alive for further generations of Texans; now,
16 therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
18 Legislature hereby recognize June 8, 2013, as Fort Sherman Day and
19 commemorate the fort's rich history and continuing legacy; and, be
20 it further

21 RESOLVED, That official copies of this resolution be prepared
22 for the Titus County Historical Preservation Society and the Titus
23 County Historical Commission as an expression of high regard by the
24 Texas House of Representatives.