By: West

S.C.R. No. 21

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SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Municipal courts provide citizens of the Lone Star 3 State with a local forum where questions of law and fact can be 4 resolved in regard to alleged violations of state law and municipal 5 ordinances; and

6 WHEREAS, Because citizens come into contact with municipal 7 courts more than any other courts, the public impression of the 8 Texas judicial system is largely dependent on their experience 9 there; and

10 WHEREAS, Judges of the municipal courts function also as 11 magistrates for the State of Texas, and in that role they perform 12 such duties as issuing search and arrest warrants, giving 13 magistrate warnings, and setting bail for offenses ranging from 14 petty theft to murder; and

WHEREAS, Pledging to be impartial and to conform to the standards set by the Canons of Judicial Conduct, the estimated 6,000 employees of municipal courts work diligently to ensure the fair administration of justice while upholding the rigorous standards of professionalism; and

20 WHEREAS, Municipal judges, clerks, court administrators, 21 bailiffs, and warrant officers continually strive to improve the 22 administration of justice through participation in judicial 23 education programs, seminars, workshops, and the annual meetings of 24 their state and local professional organizations; and

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1 WHEREAS, Municipal courts in Texas play a vital role in 2 preserving public safety, protecting the quality of life for area 3 residents, and deterring future criminal behavior, and it is indeed 4 fitting to recognize municipal judges and support personnel for 5 their exemplary dedication to the communities they serve; now, 6 therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 83rd Texas Legislature hereby recognize
November 4-8, 2013, and November 3-7, 2014, as Municipal Courts
Week and take special note of the important work performed by all
those associated with the state's municipal courts.

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