

By: West

S.C.R. No. 21

1 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

15 WHEREAS, Pledging to be impartial and to conform to the
16 standards set by the Canons of Judicial Conduct, the estimated
17 6,000 employees of municipal courts work diligently to ensure the
18 fair administration of justice while upholding the rigorous
19 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

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

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