WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to join the citizens of Hempstead in celebrating March 4, 2013, as Hempstead Day at the State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, On December 29, 1856, Dr. Richard Rodgers Peebles and James W. McDade organized the Hempstead Town Company and sold lots to establish the community of Hempstead; and

WHEREAS, On November 10, 1858, Hempstead was incorporated, and the town went on to become a major distribution center between the Gulf Coast and the interior of Texas; and

WHEREAS, Hempstead was known for its production of watermelons, which were shipped to markets throughout the United States during the 1940s; Hempstead is still known today for its watermelons, and they are still shipped across the country during peak growing season; and

WHEREAS, In recent years, this pleasant town has grown rapidly; it has benefited from its proximity to Houston, which lies 50 miles southeast of Hempstead, and from its nearness to three academic institutions: Texas A\&M University, Prairie View A\&M University, and Blinn College; and

WHEREAS, Hempstead is also bluebonnet country; it is centrally located near the junction of United States Highway 290 and State Highway 6 , in an area where spring wildflowers bloom in profusion each year; its agricultural heritage and small-town atmosphere make it an ideal place to call home; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 83rd Legislature, hereby recognize March 4, 2013, as Hempstead Day at the State Capitol and extend to the citizens of Hempstead best wishes for an enjoyable visit in Austin; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for them as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

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> President of the Senate
> I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 4,2013 .

Secretary of the Senate

