

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 415

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize the citizens of Wharton County who have come to Austin to celebrate Wharton County Day at the State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, Wharton County was founded in April of 1846 and named for two Texas heroes, brothers William Harris Wharton and John Austin Wharton; and

WHEREAS, Wharton County is located on the Coastal Plain of southeast Texas on United States Highway 59 southwest of Houston; the county is bounded by Matagorda, Colorado, and Jackson Counties and by the San Bernard River, which forms its northeastern border and marks the county line with Fort Bend County; and

WHEREAS, Wharton County has approximately 41,280 residents and encompasses 1,086 square miles of land, which is divided primarily between prairie and timberland; the Colorado River, which traverses the county from northwest to southeast, divides it roughly in half and flows through Wharton and Glen Flora; and

WHEREAS, Prospective landowners first came to the plains of the Colorado River in 1822, led by Stephen F. Austin under contract with the Mexican government; the Mexican Imperial Colonization Law of 1823 granted 177 acres to the heads of families for farming and 4,428 acres for raising cattle; and

WHEREAS, During the time of the Republic of Texas, the area was divided into three counties, Matagorda, Jackson, and Colorado, and the area consisted of isolated plantation homes and two growing towns, Preston and Egypt; and

WHEREAS, After Texas entered the United States in 1845, Wharton County was formed of parts of the three existing counties near the intersection of the mail routes from Matagorda to Columbus and from Houston to Victoria; and

WHEREAS, The advent of railroads and irrigation brought increased settlement to the area, which remains a center of agricultural, educational, industrial, and medical services for a large region; and

WHEREAS, Wharton County's largest cities and townships are El Campo, Wharton, East Bernard, Boling, and Louise; and

WHEREAS, Wharton, the county seat, is known for its small-town way of life and its Czech, Danish, and Mexican heritage; it offers exceptional hunting and outdoor activities, proximity to both Houston and the Gulf Coast, and outstanding festivals; it is also noted for its excellent schools and championship football teams; and

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WHEREAS, Residents of Wharton County can take pride in their rich history and heritage as they look forward to a promising future; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 83rd Legislature, hereby welcome the citizens of Wharton County to Austin and extend best wishes for a productive and enjoyable Wharton County Day at the State Capitol; and, be it further

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

Hegar

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 6, 2013.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate