

By: Springer

H.C.R. No. 68

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Both the Chisholm Trail and the Great Western Trail
2 contributed immeasurably to the agricultural boom in the United
3 States in the 19th century, and their far-reaching effects on the
4 country's culture, their historical significance, and their
5 potential for recreational use make them prime candidates for
6 designation as National Historic Trails; and

7 WHEREAS, The Chisholm Trail was formed in 1867, when Joseph
8 G. McCoy and other cattlemen sought to expand the market for Texas
9 beef; the passage stretched from San Antonio to Abilene, Kansas,
10 and with each passing year, the number of heads of cattle shipped
11 along the route doubled until topping out at more than 600,000 in
12 1871; before its closing in 1884, the trail had been the route of
13 the greatest migration of livestock in world history, including
14 five million cattle and a million mustangs; and

15 WHEREAS, The Great Western Trail was established by cattle
16 driver John T. Lytle in 1874; it reached from San Antonio to Dodge
17 City, Kansas, and quickly succeeded the Chisholm Trail as the
18 principal thoroughfare for exporting cattle; by the last reported
19 drive in 1893, between three and five million cattle had traveled
20 north along its path; and

21 WHEREAS, The importance of the Chisholm and Great Western
22 Trails in American history cannot be understated, as they provided
23 an abundance of beef and milk to the industrialized centers of the
24 country and greatly changed the economics of the agricultural

1 industry, and these landmarks are truly deserving of being
2 designated as National Historic Trails; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the 84th Legislature of the State of Texas
4 hereby respectfully urge Congress to designate the Chisholm Trail
5 and the Great Western Trail as National Historic Trails; and, be it
6 further

7 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official
8 copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to
9 the speaker of the house of representatives and to the president of
10 the senate of the United States Congress, and to all members of the
11 Texas delegation to Congress with the request that this resolution
12 be officially entered in the Congressional Record as a memorial to
13 the Congress of the United States of America.