

By: Sheets

H.R. No. 175

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The Roman Catholic Diocese of Dallas is celebrating  
2 the 125th anniversary of its founding in 2015; and

3           WHEREAS, In response to the growing Catholic population in  
4 Texas, Pope Leo XIII created the Diocese of Dallas in 1890; Thomas  
5 Francis Brennan of Tipperary, Ireland, was appointed as the first  
6 bishop over an area that encompassed most of North and West Texas;  
7 and

8           WHEREAS, Through the years, the Diocese of Dallas has evolved  
9 to accommodate the changing needs of its parishioners, with the  
10 establishment of such institutions as the *Texas Catholic* diocesan  
11 newspaper, Holy Trinity College, and St. Paul Hospital; in 1902,  
12 the Sacred Heart Cathedral was constructed when the congregation  
13 outgrew the simple wooden church that had previously served as the  
14 seat of the diocese; as the local Catholic population continued to  
15 increase, the boundaries were redrawn several times to form the  
16 Dioceses of El Paso, Amarillo, Austin, San Angelo, Fort Worth, and  
17 Tyler, and today, the Diocese of Dallas covers an area of 7,523  
18 square miles, including Collin, Dallas, Ellis, Fannin, Grayson,  
19 Hunt, Kaufman, Navarro, and Rockwall Counties, and is one of the  
20 fastest growing dioceses in the country; and

21           WHEREAS, Since 2007, the faithful of the diocese have  
22 benefited from the wise and compassionate oversight of Bishop Kevin  
23 Joseph Farrell, who is leading an effort not only to increase parish  
24 support for families and children but also to advance work on

1 restoration of the landmark Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of  
2 Guadalupe; and

3 WHEREAS, Countless Texans have looked to the Catholic Diocese  
4 of Dallas for spiritual guidance over the last 125 years, and its  
5 member parishes continue to be a positive and vital force in the  
6 communities they serve; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas  
8 Legislature hereby commemorate the 125th anniversary of the  
9 founding of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Dallas and extend to its  
10 parishioners and clergy sincere best wishes for the future; and, be  
11 it further

12 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
13 prepared for the diocese as an expression of high regard by the  
14 Texas House of Representatives.