

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Texas has the nation's largest rural population, and
2 rural concerns are of enormous importance to the Lone Star State;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Today, 3.2 million Texans, or 16 percent, live in
5 rural areas; of the 254 counties in Texas, 172 are rural, and rural
6 land totals 142 million acres, representing 84 percent of total
7 land area; and

8 WHEREAS, Our state leads the country in the number of farms
9 and ranches, which cover 130.2 million acres, and small rural
10 telephone cooperatives and companies provide service to over half
11 the geographic area; and

12 WHEREAS, Texas has more women and minority farm operations
13 than any other state, and almost a third of the population in rural
14 counties is 65 or older; reflecting the deep patriotism of the
15 countryside, the majority of the nation's military men and women
16 hail from rural backgrounds; and

17 WHEREAS, Such essential products as food, fuel, and fiber are
18 among those originating in rural Texas, but although rural
19 operations contribute billions to the Texas economy, rural families
20 typically earn only 48 percent of what metropolitan workers earn;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, While the rural population may be decreasing, rural
23 people continue to demonstrate resolve and determination, as well
24 as love for family, faith, and country, and the future of this state

1 and nation depends in large part on the vibrancy and prosperity of
2 our rural communities; and

3 WHEREAS, A special legislative day provides a most fitting
4 occasion to recognize the accomplishments and contributions of
5 rural citizens, businesses, and industries; now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
7 Legislature hereby recognize February 3, 2015, as Rural Matters Day
8 in Texas and express its gratitude and appreciation for the myriad
9 contributions of rural Texans.

King of Uvalde
Anderson of McLennan
Nevárez
King of Hemphill
Springer

Straus	Guerra	Otto
Allen	Guillen	Paddie
Alonzo	Gutierrez	Parker
Alvarado	Harless	Paul
Anchia	Hernandez	Peña
Anderson of Dallas	Herrero	Phelan
Anderson of McLennan	Howard	Phillips
Ashby	Huberty	Pickett
Aycock	Hughes	Price
Bell	Hunter	Raney
Blanco	Isaac	Raymond
Bohac	Israel	Reynolds
Bonnen of Brazoria	Johnson	Riddle
Bonnen of Galveston	Kacal	Rinaldi
Burkett	Keffer	Rodriguez of Bexar
Burns	Keough	Rodriguez of Travis
Burrows	King of Hemphill	Romero, Jr.
Button	King of Parker	Rose
Canales	King of Taylor	Sanford
Capriglione	King of Uvalde	Schaefer
Clardy	Klick	Schofield
Coleman	Koop	Shaheen
Collier	Krause	Sheets
Cook	Kuempel	Sheffield
Craddick	Landgraf	Simmons
Crownover	Larson	Simpson
Dale	Laubenberg	Smith
Darby	Leach	Smithee
Davis of Dallas	Longoria	Spitzer
Davis of Harris	Lozano	Springer
Deshotel	Lucio III	Stephenson
Dukes	Márquez	Stickland
Dutton	Martinez	Thompson of Brazoria
Elkins	Martinez Fischer	Thompson of Harris
Faircloth	McClendon	Tinderholt
Fallon	Menéndez	Turner of Collin
Farias	Metcalf	Turner of Harris
Farney	Meyer	Turner of Tarrant
Farrar	Miles	VanDeaver
Fletcher	Miller of Comal	Villalba
Flynn	Miller of Fort Bend	Vo
Frank	Moody	Walle
Frullo	Morrison	White of Bell
Galindo	Muñoz, Jr.	White of Tyler
Geren	Murphy	Workman
Giddings	Murr	Wray
Goldman	Naishtat	Wu
Gonzales	Nevárez	Zedler
González	Oliveira	Zerwas

H.R. No. 254

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 254 was adopted by the House on February 3, 2015, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House