

By: Bell

H.R. No. 272

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Waller County are gathering in  
2 Austin on February 3, 2015, to celebrate Waller County Day at the  
3 State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, The Waller County area was originally settled by  
5 members of Stephen F. Austin's Old Three Hundred during the 1820s;  
6 shortly thereafter, it became the site of perhaps the first cotton  
7 plantation in Texas, which was used as an encampment by members of  
8 General Sam Houston's army during the Texas Revolution; in 1873,  
9 the county was carved from sections of Austin and Grimes Counties  
10 and named after Edwin Waller, a signer of the Texas Declaration of  
11 Independence and the first mayor of Austin; and

12 WHEREAS, Waller County's growth was chiefly driven by  
13 agriculture, with cotton, corn, and cattle serving as mainstays,  
14 until the discovery of petroleum in the 1930s helped to diversify  
15 its economy; today, farming, ranching, and mineral resources are  
16 important to the area, and its rural character and proximity to  
17 Houston have made it an attractive destination for new residents;  
18 additionally, opportunities abound for hunting and fishing, and the  
19 region's natural beauty and wildlife can be experienced at the Katy  
20 Prairie, a coastal grassland area that is a haven for  
21 bird-watchers; and

22 WHEREAS, Hempstead is the county seat and the host of the  
23 annual Waller County Fair and its summertime Watermelon Festival, a  
24 favorite of residents and visitors alike; Prairie View, recognized

1 as an ideal place to live, learn, and raise a family, is home to  
2 Prairie View A&M University, the second-oldest public institution  
3 of higher learning in the state, and Brookshire is a quaint rural  
4 town that is the location of the Brookwood Community as well as  
5 several international companies that serve as major employers;  
6 while only parts of Waller and Katy are in the county, they are both  
7 fast-growing cities that boast excellent schools and contribute  
8 greatly to the culture and prosperity of the area; and

9 WHEREAS, Honoring their rich heritage as they work toward  
10 building an even brighter future, the citizens of Waller County  
11 have many reasons to be proud of the place they call home; now,  
12 therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas  
14 Legislature hereby recognize February 3, 2015, as Waller County Day  
15 at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation sincere  
16 best wishes for an enjoyable stay in Austin.