

By: Nevárez

H.R. No. 373

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Kinney County are gathering at
2 the State Capitol to celebrate the role the county has played in the
3 annals of the Lone Star State; and

4 WHEREAS, Located west of San Antonio in the Rio Grande Plains
5 region, Kinney County was first populated as long as 10,000 years
6 ago, according to the archeological evidence found in rock
7 shelters; artifacts indicate the subsequent presence of tribes
8 including the Lipan Apaches, Coahuiltecan, Jumanos, Tamaulipans,
9 Tonkawas, and Comanches; and

10 WHEREAS, Early Spanish explorers visited the area, and in
11 1665, Fernando de Azcué, credited as the first European to cross the
12 Rio Grande, passed through what would become the southeastern
13 corner of the county; although the region remained sparsely
14 settled, the Texas Legislature carved it out of Bexar County to form
15 a new county in 1850, and it was named after pioneer Henry Lawrence
16 Kinney; and

17 WHEREAS, In 1852, the United States Army established Fort
18 Riley, soon redesignated as Fort Clark, along Las Moras Creek, and
19 the community of Brackett was founded; named for local merchant
20 Oscar B. Brackett, it became known as Brackettville, and it is today
21 the county's seat and largest city; the fort later became the base
22 for a small company of Black Seminole Indian scouts, and in 1872,
23 the Black Seminole Indian Scout Cemetery was sited there; by the
24 mid-1870s, the Black Seminoles numbered some 400 to 500; their

1 families lived on a military reservation along Las Moras Creek for
2 decades, and although the scouts were disbanded by the federal
3 government in 1912 and the reservation was closed, some descendants
4 remain in the county; and

5 WHEREAS, Through the years, cattle ranching has dominated the
6 county's economy, and wool and mohair production played an
7 important part in the nation's war effort during World War II;
8 today, tourists are drawn to the area by a variety of noteworthy
9 attractions, among them Kickapoo Cavern State Park, Alamo Village,
10 Las Moras Park, and Fort Clark; and

11 WHEREAS, The citizens of Kinney County are confidently facing
12 the future while continuing to embrace their rich and colorful
13 past, and it is indeed a pleasure to honor them at this time; now,
14 therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
16 Legislature hereby recognize Kinney County Day at the State Capitol
17 and extend to this delegation sincere best wishes for an enjoyable
18 and memorable visit.