

By: Miller of Comal

H.R. No. 566

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The signing of the Meusebach-Comanche Peace Treaty
2 is an important chapter in the story of Texas, and it is indeed
3 appropriate to reflect on the impact of that landmark event; and

4 WHEREAS, In the mid-1840s, John O. Meusebach, commissioner
5 general of the Society for the Protection of German Immigrants in
6 Texas, acquired headrights to property in the Fisher-Miller Land
7 Grant, which included more than three million acres of land between
8 the Llano and Colorado Rivers; the grant stipulated that the land
9 had to be settled and surveyed by the fall of 1847, requiring the
10 settlers to reach an agreement with the Comanches, who occupied
11 much of the territory; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Meusebach along with a delegation of settlers
13 set out from Fredericksburg in early 1847 en route to Comanche
14 territory, where they planned to broker a deal with the
15 inhabitants; that March, he met with head chiefs Buffalo Hump,
16 Santa Anna, and Mopechucope and their tribe, offering gifts worth
17 \$3,000 in exchange for the guaranteed safety of surveyors and
18 colonists; agreeing to those terms, the chiefs traveled to
19 Fredericksburg, and on May 9, they signed the Meusebach-Comanche
20 Treaty; and

21 WHEREAS, The historic document opened an expansive region for
22 settlement and established domestic tranquility between colonists
23 and Native Americans, and the long-standing pact continues to be an
24 inspiring example of goodwill and coexistence; now, therefore, be

1 it

2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
3 Legislature hereby recognize May 9, 2015, as Meusebach-Comanche
4 Peace Treaty Day at the State Capitol and pay tribute to the
5 collaborative work between John O. Meusebach and the Comanche
6 chiefs.