

By: Stephenson

H.R. No. 577

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Citizens of Wharton County are gathering in Austin
2 on March 3, 2015, to celebrate Wharton County Day at the State
3 Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, Wharton County was founded in April of 1846, and its
5 name commemorates two heroes of the Texas Revolution, brothers
6 William Harris Wharton and John Austin Wharton; and

7 WHEREAS, Wharton County is located on the Coastal Plain
8 southwest of Houston; the county is bounded by Matagorda, Colorado,
9 and Jackson Counties and by the San Bernard River, which forms its
10 northeastern border and marks the county line with Fort Bend
11 County; and

12 WHEREAS, Wharton County has more than 41,000 residents and
13 encompasses 1,086 square miles of land, which is divided primarily
14 between prairie and timberland; the Colorado River traverses the
15 county from northwest to southeast, dividing it roughly in half and
16 flowing through Wharton and Glen Flora; and

17 WHEREAS, Prospective landowners first came to the plains of
18 the Colorado River in 1822, led by Stephen F. Austin under contract
19 with the Mexican government; the Mexican Imperial Colonization Law
20 of 1823 granted 177 acres to the heads of families for farming and
21 4,428 acres for raising cattle; and

22 WHEREAS, During the time of the Republic of Texas, the area
23 was divided into three counties, Matagorda, Jackson, and Colorado,
24 and the area consisted of isolated plantation homes and two growing

1 towns, Preston and Egypt; and

2 WHEREAS, After Texas entered the United States in 1845,
3 Wharton County was formed of parts of the three existing counties
4 near the intersection of the mail routes from Matagorda to Columbus
5 and from Houston to Victoria; and

6 WHEREAS, The advent of railroads and irrigation brought
7 increased settlement to the area, which remains a center of
8 agricultural, educational, industrial, and medical services for a
9 large region; and

10 WHEREAS, Wharton County's largest cities and townships are El
11 Campo, Wharton, East Bernard, Boling, and Louise; and

12 WHEREAS, Wharton, the county seat, is known for its
13 small-town way of life and its Czech, Danish, and Mexican heritage;
14 it offers proximity to both Houston and the Gulf Coast, and
15 outstanding festivals; it is also noted for its excellent schools
16 and championship football teams; and

17 WHEREAS, Residents of Wharton County can take pride in their
18 rich history and heritage as they look forward to a promising
19 future; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
21 Legislature hereby recognize March 3, 2015, as Wharton County Day
22 at the State Capitol and extend sincere best wishes to all
23 participants for an informative and enjoyable day in Austin.