

By: VanDeaver

H.R. No. 600

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Red River County are gathering in  
2 Austin to celebrate Red River County Day at the State Capitol on  
3 March 25, 2015; and

4 WHEREAS, The rolling timberlands of the Red River valley were  
5 first inhabited thousands of years ago, and they were later settled  
6 by the Caddo people; during the early 19th century, bands of  
7 Shawnee, Delaware, and Kickapoo settled along the creeks that still  
8 carry their names; French explorers, soldiers, and trappers passed  
9 through the region in the 1700s, and the first Anglo-American  
10 settlements in Texas, Jonesborough and Pecan Point, were located in  
11 the present-day county; Sam Houston spent his first night in Texas  
12 in Jonesborough, and Davy Crockett passed through on his way to the  
13 Alamo; and

14 WHEREAS, In those early years, the Red River District  
15 encompassed land from 39 present-day counties, and its sovereignty  
16 remained in dispute, with settlers sending representatives to the  
17 Arkansas legislature even as they sought land grants from the  
18 Mexican government; in 1837, the Republic of Texas formed Red River  
19 County, and the county was reduced to its present size in 1846; the  
20 arrival of a railway in 1876 helped cotton farming become the  
21 foundation of the county's economy; today, its chief agricultural  
22 products are cattle, soybeans, wheat, and timber; and

23 WHEREAS, Clarksville, the county seat, has been recognized as  
24 a Texas Main Street City, a National Main Street City, and a

1 Preserve America community, and it is home to the Magnolia Brush  
2 company, which distributes its products nationwide; famous  
3 individuals who hail from Clarksville include the writer William  
4 Humphrey, award-winning novelist John Williams, Olympic champion  
5 runner Tommie Smith, and natural foods advocate Euell Gibbons; the  
6 village of Detroit is the hometown of John Nance Garner, vice  
7 president under Franklin Roosevelt, and the Dallas police officer  
8 J. D. Tippit, who died in the line of duty on the day of the Kennedy  
9 assassination, was born near Annona; and

10 WHEREAS, Residents and visitors alike delight in the county's  
11 annual display of colorful fall foliage, and the county is a popular  
12 destination for hunters; annual festivals and celebrations include  
13 the Wade T. Witmer Memorial Hog Hunt, the Red River County BBQ  
14 Smoke-off, the Detroit Arts Fest, the Historical Society's Fall  
15 Bazaar, and two annual bicycle tours, one in the summer and one in  
16 the fall; and

17 WHEREAS, Blessed with a scenic and fertile landscape and a  
18 rich history, the people of Red River County take great pride in  
19 their heritage as they work to build a bright future; now,  
20 therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas  
22 Legislature hereby recognize March 25, 2015, as Red River County  
23 Day at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation  
24 sincere best wishes for an enjoyable visit to Austin.