

By: Paddie

H.R. No. 733

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Shelby County Day is being celebrated at the State  
2 Capitol on March 5, 2015, and this occasion provides a fine  
3 opportunity to pay tribute to this unique region of the Lone Star  
4 State; and

5 WHEREAS, Located alongside the Toledo Bend Reservoir on the  
6 Sabine River, the territory that now makes up Shelby County has  
7 drawn people for thousands of years; the Caddo were the chief  
8 inhabitants of the region by the time Spanish and French explorers  
9 arrived, and the first non-Native American settlers established  
10 farms in the late 1810s; and

11 WHEREAS, The area was organized as Tenawah Municipality in  
12 1835, when Texas was still a part of Mexico, but it was renamed as  
13 Shelby County when it became one of the original counties of the  
14 Republic of Texas in 1836; its name was a tribute to Isaac Shelby, a  
15 hero of the American Revolution; and

16 WHEREAS, Throughout the county's history, agriculture and  
17 livestock have been mainstays of the economy; the ample forests of  
18 the area are another major asset, supporting jobs in lumber  
19 processing and wood-product manufacturing and also drawing  
20 tourists; the Sabine National Forest is a favorite destination for  
21 outdoor recreation, as is Toledo Bend Reservoir, a quality spot for  
22 boating and fishing; and

23 WHEREAS, Center, the largest town, has been the county seat  
24 since 1866; it is home to the Shelby County Museum and the former

1 Shelby County Courthouse, a castle-like structure constructed in  
2 1885 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places; and

3 WHEREAS, Residents and visitors alike enjoy a variety of  
4 special events that dot the county's annual calendar, including the  
5 Center Fly-In, the Shelby County Sheriff's Posse PRCA Rodeo, the  
6 What-A-Melon Festival, Timpson Frontier Days, and the East Texas  
7 Poultry Festival; thanks to its year-round charm and diverse  
8 amenities, Shelby County is now also a certified retirement  
9 community; and

10 WHEREAS, In 2015, the city of Center will celebrate the  
11 completion of Loop 500 by the Texas Department of Transportation;  
12 this enhancement of the city's infrastructure will encourage  
13 economic development for the timber and poultry industries and  
14 local manufacturers and will ease traffic congestion; the new road  
15 will also enable the growth of new business and residential  
16 development in previously underserved areas; and

17 WHEREAS, From the time of its establishment more than 175  
18 years ago, Shelby County has contributed to the rich and meaningful  
19 saga of the Lone Star State, and its citizens can be proud to claim  
20 allegiance to this scenic part of East Texas; now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas  
22 Legislature hereby recognize March 5, 2015, as Shelby County Day at  
23 the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation best wishes  
24 for the future.