

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Each year, St. Patrick's Day is celebrated on March  
2 17, and this occasion provides a welcome opportunity to honor the  
3 origins of the event and to highlight the many contributions that  
4 individuals of Irish descent have made to the Lone Star State; and

5           WHEREAS, Born into a wealthy Romano-British family in the 4th  
6 century, St. Patrick was kidnapped at the age of 16 by Irish raiders  
7 and taken captive to the Emerald Isle; according to his writings,  
8 divine intervention allowed him to escape, and he entered the  
9 priesthood soon after; he later returned to Ireland and spent  
10 nearly 30 years teaching the island's residents about his faith,  
11 thereby becoming the principal champion of Irish Christianity in  
12 legend and folklore; St. Patrick's Day, which commemorates the day  
13 of his death in 461, has become a celebration of Irish heritage  
14 around the world, and in recent decades the government of Ireland  
15 has made the observance a centerpiece of its efforts to showcase the  
16 country and its culture; and

17           WHEREAS, One of the earliest Irish residents of Texas was  
18 Hugh O'Connor, who served as governor of the Spanish territory from  
19 1767 to 1770; natives of Ireland also played a central role in the  
20 settlement of Texas in the early 1800s, including empresarios James  
21 McGloin, John McMullen, and James Power, who brought dozens of  
22 Irish families to South Texas and the Gulf Coast; and

23           WHEREAS, All three of these men participated in the Texas  
24 Revolution, as did Irishmen such as John Joseph Linn, Francis Moore

1 Jr., and Thomas William Ward; a dozen individuals from the Emerald  
2 Isle died defending the Alamo, and 100 Irish-born troops helped win  
3 the independence of Texas in the decisive Battle of San Jacinto; and

4       WHEREAS, The number of immigrants from Ireland grew  
5 dramatically in the mid-1800s, and several prominent Irish natives  
6 made their mark during that period; Samuel McKinney was an early  
7 president of Austin College, Father Michael Sheehan established the  
8 first Catholic church in Austin and became one of the first  
9 full-time Catholic chaplains in the U.S. Army, and Peter Gallagher  
10 served as a Texas Ranger and helped organize Pecos County; later in  
11 the 19th century, Irishman John William Mallet served as the first  
12 faculty chair at The University of Texas at Austin, and artist Henry  
13 Arthur McArdle produced many famous paintings inspired by Texas  
14 history, some of which now hang in the State Capitol; and

15       WHEREAS, With the passing decades, additional people from  
16 Ireland found a new home in Texas, and they and the descendents of  
17 previous immigrants have had an enduring influence on the state's  
18 lifestyle and development; today, Irish culture is celebrated in  
19 formal programs such as the Center for Irish Studies at the  
20 University of St. Thomas in Houston, as well as in statewide  
21 St. Patrick's Day celebrations, and it is appropriate to join in  
22 recognizing the significant role that Irish Americans have played  
23 in the story of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

24       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas  
25 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the state's vital Irish heritage  
26 and extend Happy St. Patrick's Day wishes to all Irish Americans.

Murphy

Straus	González	Paddie
Allen	Guerra	Parker
Alonzo	Guillen	Paul
Alvarado	Gutierrez	Peña
Anchia	Harless	Phelan
Anderson of Dallas	Hernandez	Phillips
Anderson of McLennan	Herrero	Pickett
Ashby	Howard	Price
Aycock	Huberty	Raney
Bell	Hughes	Raymond
Bernal	Hunter	Reynolds
Blanco	Isaac	Riddle
Bohac	Israel	Rinaldi
Bonnen of Brazoria	Johnson	Rodriguez of Bexar
Bonnen of Galveston	Kacal	Rodriguez of Travis
Burkett	Keffer	Romero, Jr.
Burns	Keough	Rose
Burrows	King of Hemphill	Sanford
Button	King of Parker	Schaefer
Canales	King of Taylor	Schofield
Capriglione	King of Uvalde	Schubert
Clardy	Klick	Shaheen
Coleman	Koop	Sheets
Collier	Krause	Sheffield
Cook	Kuempel	Simmons
Craddick	Landgraf	Simpson
Crownover	Larson	Smith
Cyrier	Laubenberg	Smithee
Dale	Leach	Spitzer
Darby	Longoria	Springer
Davis of Dallas	Lozano	Stephenson
Davis of Harris	Lucio III	Stickland
Deshotel	Márquez	Thompson of Brazoria
Dukes	Martinez	Thompson of Harris
Dutton	Martinez Fischer	Tinderholt
Elkins	McClendon	Turner of Collin
Faircloth	Metcalf	Turner of Harris
Fallon	Meyer	Turner of Tarrant
Farias	Miles	VanDeaver
Farney	Miller of Comal	Villalba
Farrar	Miller of Fort Bend	Vo
Fletcher	Moody	Walle
Flynn	Morrison	White of Bell
Frank	Muñoz, Jr.	White of Tyler
Frullo	Murphy	Workman
Galindo	Murr	Wray
Geren	Naishtat	Wu
Giddings	Nevárez	Zedler
Goldman	Oliveira	Zerwas
Gonzales	Otto	

H.R. No. 820

---

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 820 was adopted by the House on March 12, 2015, by a non-record vote.

---

Chief Clerk of the House