

By: Stephenson

H.R. No. 1832

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Residents of Jackson County are gathering in Austin
2 on April 21, 2015, to celebrate Jackson County Day at the State
3 Capitol, and this occasion provides a welcome opportunity to honor
4 the history and achievements of this notable area of the Lone Star
5 State; and

6 WHEREAS, Located along the Gulf of Mexico, this part of the
7 Coastal Prairie was once inhabited by the Karankawa people, and it
8 is thought that the early European explorers Cabeza de Vaca and La
9 Salle visited the area; in the 1820s, a number of the "Old 300"
10 families in Stephen F. Austin's first colony arrived, and the
11 communities they founded became known as the Alabama Settlement
12 because so many of the new arrivals had previously resided in that
13 state; and

14 WHEREAS, The area played a central role in the Texas
15 Revolution, serving as a training ground for Texan forces and
16 suffering destruction at the hands of the Mexican Army; after
17 independence was won in 1836, Jackson County was one of the original
18 23 counties formed in the newly established republic; and

19 WHEREAS, Cattle ranching and farming became the backbone of
20 the local economy in the mid-1800s, and these businesses remain
21 important to the county today, with rice, corn, and cotton being
22 prominent crops; moreover, oil and natural gas production have
23 employed many area residents since reserves were discovered in the
24 1930s; and

1 WHEREAS, The town of Edna was established in the 1880s as a
2 stop on a new railroad that was built through the coastal region; it
3 quickly eclipsed the existing county seat, Texana, and in 1883,
4 Edna became the center of government operations; other communities
5 in the county include Francitas, Ganado, LaSalle, La Ward, Lolita,
6 and Vanderbilt; and

7 WHEREAS, Encompassing Lake Texana and Lavaca Bay, Jackson
8 County is a great place for boating, fishing, and hiking, and these
9 activities draw many people to sites such as the Brackenridge
10 Recreation Complex, which includes the Brackenridge and Texana
11 parks and campgrounds, as well as the Main Event Center; hunting and
12 bird-watching are also popular, and visitors can learn about local
13 history at the Texana Museum and Old Jail House in Edna; and

14 WHEREAS, Celebrating their rich and colorful history as they
15 work together to build a bright future, the citizens of Jackson
16 County may take justifiable pride in the important role their
17 unique region continues to play in the story of the Lone Star State;
18 now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
20 Legislature hereby recognize April 21, 2015, as Jackson County Day
21 at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation best
22 wishes for an informative and enjoyable stay in Austin.