

By: Schubert

H.R. No. 2093

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Citizens of Grimes County are joining together at
2 the State Capitol to celebrate Grimes County Day on May 4, 2015; and

3 WHEREAS, A landscape of lush forests and verdant savannah,
4 the area that would later become Grimes County was inhabited by the
5 Bidai people when Europeans first arrived in the region in the late
6 1600s; it is thought that the famous French explorer La Salle met
7 his untimely end near present-day Navasota in 1687; and

8 WHEREAS, In the 1820s, Anglo settlers began to move into the
9 region, drawn by the rich bottomlands along the Navasota and Brazos
10 Rivers; one of the first cotton crops in Texas was planted in the
11 county, and with Anderson as its county seat, Grimes County was
12 established in 1846 and named after Jesse Grimes, a signer of the
13 Texas Declaration of Independence; and

14 WHEREAS, The arrival of the Houston and Central Texas Railway
15 in 1859 helped promote the growth of Navasota as a center of
16 commerce, while two spas established in the 1850s, Kellum Springs
17 and Piedmont Springs, drew many visitors to the county; and

18 WHEREAS, Today, the area's prosperity is based on livestock,
19 agribusiness, and light manufacturing; the timber, lignite coal,
20 and natural gas industries also contribute to the economy of the
21 region; and

22 WHEREAS, Officially designated the Blues Capital of Texas by
23 the 79th Texas Legislature in 2005, Navasota hosts the annual Blues
24 Fest to commemorate the famous blues musician and native son Mance

1 Lipscomb and to raise money for a scholarship in his name; the town
2 is equally known for its picturesque downtown and Victorian-style
3 houses, and its history is showcased in the Horlock History Center,
4 a restored 1892 home; and

5 WHEREAS, Anderson boasts the striking Grimes County
6 Courthouse, constructed of handmade bricks in 1894 and restored in
7 2002; the town is also home to the Fanthorp Inn State Historic Site,
8 a restored 19th-century stagecoach stop that hosted such famous
9 figures as Sam Houston, Robert E. Lee, and Ulysses S. Grant; and

10 WHEREAS, Residents and visitors alike enjoy the colorful
11 Texas Renaissance Festival in Plantersville every October and
12 November; another popular attraction is Gibbons Creek Reservoir,
13 which offers ample recreational opportunities for fishing,
14 camping, boating, and waterskiing; and

15 WHEREAS, Celebrating their rich history as they look forward
16 to a bright future, the people of Grimes County are justifiably
17 proud of their heritage and achievements, and their county's many
18 contributions to the ongoing development of the Lone Star State are
19 indeed deserving of special honor; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
21 Legislature hereby recognize May 4, 2015, as Grimes County Day at
22 the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation sincere
23 best wishes for an informative and enjoyable stay in Austin.