

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Gonzales County Historical Commission is
2 celebrating the dedication of an Official Texas Historical Marker
3 honoring notable 19th-century quarter horse breeder William
4 B. Fleming on May 9, 2015; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in Lumpkin County, Georgia, in 1830, Billy
6 Fleming arrived in Texas before he turned 20; he enlisted in the
7 Texas Ranger Mounted Volunteers and served on the frontier with
8 Company C before joining the Confederate Army; during the Civil
9 War, he was wounded a number of times and lost the full use of his
10 right arm and hand; and

11 WHEREAS, After the war ended, Mr. Fleming settled in Gonzales
12 County, and in 1871 he purchased land on the south bank of the
13 Guadalupe River in partnership with Charles Erasmus Littlefield; a
14 fine judge of horses, he bought a stallion that was in terrible
15 condition, having long been kept chained to a tree, and restored it
16 to health; he called him Old Billy, and the steed established a line
17 of quarter horses known as Billys, which were particularly popular
18 with cowboys, rodeo performers, and racing enthusiasts; and

19 WHEREAS, For decades, Mr. Fleming lived on his small ranch
20 between Seguin and Gonzales, where the vestiges of his log cabin can
21 still be seen; his skill as a breeder led to South Texas becoming
22 known as "land of the Billys"; when he finally grew too old to care
23 for his beloved horses, he sold them to a friend who lived near
24 Seguin and then moved to stay close to them until his passing on

1 April 30, 1911; and

2 WHEREAS, Today, Old Billy is regarded as a foundation sire of
3 the quarter horse, and the placement of a historical marker in
4 tribute to William Fleming will remind future generations of the
5 important role that this Gonzales County pioneer played in the
6 development of that legendary breed; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
8 Legislature hereby commemorate the dedication of the Official Texas
9 Historical Marker honoring William B. Fleming and extend sincere
10 appreciation to all those involved in the effort to secure this
11 award; and, be it further

12 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
13 prepared for the Gonzales County Historical Commission as an
14 expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.

Cyrier

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

H.R. No. 2420

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 2420 was adopted by the House on May 11, 2015, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House