

By: Cyrier

H.R. No. 2704

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Caldwell County are gathering in
2 Austin on May 13, 2015, to celebrate Caldwell County Day at the
3 State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, Caldwell County was formed in 1848 out of territory
5 from Bastrop and Gonzales Counties and is named for Mathew
6 Caldwell, a signer of the Texas Declaration of Independence; and

7 WHEREAS, For many years, the county's economy was based on
8 agriculture; thousands of cattle were driven north on the Chisholm
9 Trail and on other trails that passed through the county, and cotton
10 became a major crop in the 1890s, after A. D. Mebane developed
11 strains of cotton that could flourish in less fertile soils; and

12 WHEREAS, The 1922 discovery of oil in the Luling and Prairie
13 Lea area served to diversify the county's economy; today, the
14 production of oil and gas remains a significant factor driving
15 economic growth in the area, while farming, ranching, and
16 manufacturing also figure in the county's economic profile; and

17 WHEREAS, Caldwell County offers ample opportunity for
18 outdoor recreation, notably at Lockhart State Park and along the
19 San Marcos River; the county also features many buildings of
20 architectural interest, among them a beautifully restored
21 courthouse and what is believed to be the oldest unaltered
22 Episcopal church in Texas; the attractive character of the county
23 has drawn the attention of moviemakers, and numerous films have
24 been shot on location there, including *Bernie*, *Temple Grandin*, and

1 *Secondhand Lions*; furthermore, Lockhart has earned recognition as
2 the Barbecue Capital of Texas, and Luling hosts the Watermelon
3 Thump, a popular annual festival complete with a rodeo, a
4 seed-spitting contest, and the crowning of the Watermelon Thump
5 Queen; and

6 WHEREAS, Celebrating their rich and colorful history as they
7 work together to build a bright future, the citizens of Caldwell
8 County may take justifiable pride in the important role their
9 unique region continues to play in the story of the Lone Star State;
10 now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
12 Legislature hereby recognize May 13, 2015, as Caldwell County Day
13 at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation sincere
14 best wishes for an informative and enjoyable stay in Austin.