

By: Bell

H.R. No. 206

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Waller County are gathering in
2 Austin on January 31, 2017, to celebrate Waller County Day at the
3 State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, The Waller County area was originally settled by
5 members of Stephen F. Austin's Old Three Hundred during the 1820s;
6 shortly thereafter, it became the site of perhaps the first cotton
7 plantation in Texas, which was used as an encampment by members of
8 General Sam Houston's army during the Texas Revolution; in 1873,
9 the county was carved from sections of Austin and Grimes Counties
10 and named after Edwin Waller, a signer of the Texas Declaration of
11 Independence and the first mayor of Austin; and

12 WHEREAS, Waller County's growth was chiefly driven by
13 agriculture, with cotton, corn, and cattle serving as mainstays
14 until the discovery of petroleum in the 1930s helped to diversify
15 the economy; today, farming, ranching, and mineral resources are
16 important to the area, and its rural character and proximity to
17 Houston have made it an attractive destination for new residents;
18 additionally, opportunities abound for hunting and fishing, and the
19 region's natural beauty and wildlife can be experienced at the Katy
20 Prairie, a coastal grassland area that is a haven for
21 bird-watchers; and

22 WHEREAS, Hempstead is the county seat and the host of the
23 annual Waller County Fair and its summertime Watermelon Festival, a
24 favorite of residents and visitors alike; Prairie View is home to

1 Prairie View A&M University, the second-oldest public institution
2 of higher learning in the state, and Brookshire is a quaint rural
3 town that is the location of the Brookwood Community as well as
4 several international companies that serve as major employers;
5 while only parts of Waller and Katy are in the county, they are both
6 fast-growing cities that boast excellent schools and contribute
7 greatly to the culture and prosperity of the area; and

8 WHEREAS, The people of Waller County take great pride in
9 their rich history as they work to build an even brighter future,
10 and it is indeed fitting to honor them and their contributions to
11 the story of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
13 Legislature hereby recognize January 31, 2017, as Waller County Day
14 at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation sincere
15 best wishes for an informative and enjoyable stay in Austin.