

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, On February 21, 2017, proud residents of the Texas
2 Panhandle are visiting Austin for Panhandle Day at the State
3 Capitol, a celebration of the rich heritage of this important
4 region of the Lone Star State; and

5 WHEREAS, The striking landscape of the Panhandle ranges from
6 the vast grasslands and open sky of the Llano Estacado to the
7 breathtaking vistas of Palo Duro Canyon and the Caprock Escarpment
8 to the gently undulating rolling plains of the southeast; the
9 ancient Paleo-Indians once lived here, as did members of later
10 Native American cultures, and in 1541, when the explorer Francisco
11 Vázquez de Coronado passed through the area, he found a rich
12 rangeland, thick with buffalo; and

13 WHEREAS, The Panhandle's distinctive shape results from
14 boundaries that were established by the Compromise of 1850, and in
15 the decades after the Civil War, pioneering cattlemen such as
16 Charles Goodnight, James Adair, and Thomas Sherman Bugbee
17 established enormous ranching empires; the arrival of the railroad
18 in the late 1880s hastened the development of wheat and cotton
19 farming, and the discovery of oil and natural gas in the 1920s
20 further boosted and diversified the region's economy; and

21 WHEREAS, Today, the Panhandle continues to prosper from
22 farming and from the oil, gas, and wind industries, and
23 cattle-raising remains a multibillion-dollar business, with more
24 feedlots in the region than anywhere else in the nation; Amarillo,

1 the Panhandle's largest city, is home to such large employers as
2 Xcel Energy, Tyson Foods, Bell Helicopter, Pantex, and several
3 health care systems, as well as to the Texas Cattle Feeders
4 Association; Pampa, the second-largest city, is a thriving center
5 for petroleum and livestock, and Dalhart boasts the annual XIT
6 Rodeo and Reunion and the Hilmar Cheese Company; Sunray is home to a
7 Valero refinery, while Dumas and Hereford are known for cattle
8 feeding and beef processing enterprises; Panhandle serves as county
9 seat of Carson County and is home to Panhandle Elementary School, a
10 2016 National Blue Ribbon School, and Borger is the site of a
11 Phillips 66 refinery and an Agrium nitrogen plant; and

12 WHEREAS, The educational needs of the Panhandle's residents
13 are served by the nationally recognized Texas Tech University
14 Health Sciences Center and West Texas A&M University, as well as
15 such first-rate junior college institutions of higher learning as
16 Amarillo College, Frank Phillips College, and Clarendon College;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, The Panhandle features a variety of notable cultural
19 and recreational attractions; Amarillo supports the Lone Star
20 Ballet and the Amarillo Symphony, and the city's many museums
21 include the American Quarter Horse Heritage Center and Museum, the
22 Don Harrington Discovery Center, the Texas Air and Space Museum,
23 the Amarillo Railroad Museum, the Amarillo Museum of Art, and the
24 Kwahadi Museum of the American Indian; the Panhandle-Plains
25 Historical Museum in Canyon houses more than two million artifacts
26 that evoke the heritage of the region, while Palo Duro Canyon State
27 Park hosts the outdoor musical drama *Texas*, which portrays the

1 struggles and triumphs of area settlers in the 19th century; Dumas
2 draws visitors from across the region for its Dogie Days every June,
3 and Stratford, the county seat of Sherman County, hosts its popular
4 Jamboree each July; and

5 WHEREAS, The people of the Texas Panhandle are blessed to
6 live in a region of abundant natural resources and windswept
7 beauty, and they may indeed take great pride in the important
8 contributions they have made and continue to make to the history,
9 culture, and prosperity of Texas; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
11 Legislature hereby recognize February 21, 2017, as Panhandle Day at
12 the State Capitol and extend to those attending the celebration
13 sincere best wishes for a memorable and meaningful event.

Price

Straus	Goldman	Oliverson
Allen	Gonzales of Williamson	Ortega
Alonzo	González of El Paso	Paddie
Alvarado	Gooden	Parker
Anchia	Guerra	Paul
Anderson of Dallas	Guillen	Perez
Anderson of McLennan	Gutierrez	Phelan
Arévalo	Hefner	Phillips
Ashby	Hernandez	Pickett
Bailes	Herrero	Price
Bell	Hinojosa	Raney
Bernal	Holland	Raymond
Biedermann	Howard	Reynolds
Blanco	Huberty	Rinaldi
Bohac	Hunter	Roberts
Bonnen of Brazoria	Isaac	Rodriguez of Bexar
Bonnen of Galveston	Israel	Rodriguez of Travis
Burkett	Johnson of Dallas	Romero, Jr.
Burns	Johnson of Harris	Rose
Burrows	Kacal	Sanford
Button	Keough	Schaefer
Cain	King of Hemphill	Schofield
Canales	King of Parker	Schubert
Capriglione	King of Uvalde	Shaheen
Clardy	Klick	Sheffield
Coleman	Koop	Shine
Collier	Krause	Simmons
Cook	Kuempel	Smithee
Cortez	Lambert	Springer
Cosper	Landgraf	Stephenson
Craddick	Lang	Stickland
Cyrier	Larson	Stucky
Dale	Laubenberg	Swanson
Darby	Leach	Thierry
Davis of Dallas	Longoria	Thompson of Brazoria
Davis of Harris	Lozano	Thompson of Harris
Dean	Lucio III	Tinderholt
Deshotel	Martinez	Turner
Dukes	Metcalf	Uresti
Dutton	Meyer	VanDeaver
Elkins	Miller	Villalba
Faircloth	Minjarez	Vo
Fallon	Moody	Walle
Farrar	Morrison	White
Flynn	Muñoz, Jr.	Wilson
Frank	Murphy	Workman
Frullo	Murr	Wray
Geren	Neave	Wu
Gervin-Hawkins	Nevárez	Zedler
Giddings	Oliveira	Zerwas

H.R. No. 526

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 526 was adopted by the House on February 21, 2017, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House