

By: Anderson of Dallas

H.R. No. 678

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Grand Prairie are gathering in  
2 Austin on March 1, 2017, to celebrate Grand Prairie Day at the State  
3 Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, Founded during the Civil War and originally known as  
5 Deckman, the city was renamed Grand Prairie in the 1870s, and the  
6 Texas and Pacific Railway was built to the site in 1876; by 1890 the  
7 community boasted a public school, a steam gristmill-cotton gin, a  
8 broom factory, and a wagon factory; in 1928, Hensley Field was built  
9 just two miles east of Grand Prairie, and the field became the hub  
10 for area army operations; and

11 WHEREAS, Grand Prairie experienced a substantial boom during  
12 World War II, when a military flight training center and an aircraft  
13 production factory were built nearby, raising the city's population  
14 from 1,600 to 18,000; and

15 WHEREAS, Today, Grand Prairie continues to grow, with more  
16 than 187,000 residents and a wide range of industry and commerce;  
17 located in the heart of the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, the city  
18 has been nationally ranked by WalletHub as the 13th best city for  
19 families, the 30th best city for jobs, and the 18th best city in  
20 Texas for Hispanic entrepreneurs, and *Forbes* named it one of the  
21 best places to retire in the United States; additionally, the Grand  
22 Prairie Fire Department has achieved the coveted ISO 1 rating, and  
23 according to the FBI and the Texas Department of Public Safety,  
24 Grand Prairie is the 8th safest major city in Texas with a

1 population over 100,000; and

2 WHEREAS, Grand Prairie appeals to visitors and residents  
3 alike, and each year nearly 10 million people enjoy such  
4 attractions as Lone Star Park, Verizon Theatre, and Uptown Theater,  
5 as well as popular annual events, including the Prairie Dog Chili  
6 Cookoff, the Prairie Lights Christmas display, and the National  
7 Championship Indian Pow Wow; moreover, there are ample  
8 opportunities for recreation at scenic Joe Pool Lake, Mountain  
9 Creek Lake, and Lynn Creek and Loyd Parks; and

10 WHEREAS, Grand Prairie's excellent location and numerous  
11 amenities make it an ideal community in which to live and work, and  
12 its citizens may indeed take great pride in their contributions to  
13 the story of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
15 Legislature hereby recognize March 1, 2017, as Grand Prairie Day at  
16 the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation sincere  
17 best wishes for an enjoyable day in Austin.