

By: Springer

H.R. No. 786

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Vernon and Wilbarger County are
2 gathering to celebrate Wilbarger County and City of Vernon Day at
3 the State Capitol on March 8, 2017; and

4 WHEREAS, Situated upon the rolling grasslands of North Texas,
5 Wilbarger County was once part of the buffalo hunting grounds of the
6 Comanche; named for early settlers Josiah and Mathias Wilbarger,
7 the county was established in 1858; a branch of the Great Western
8 Trail passed through the area, and from 1879 to 1895, some six
9 million head of cattle traversed the Red River at Doan's Crossing
10 during the great drives north; oil, discovered in the early 20th
11 century, remains important to the region's economy; and

12 WHEREAS, County seat Vernon, designated by voters in 1881,
13 was originally called Eagle Flat for the abundance of nesting
14 eagles nearby; today, the city is a center for farming, ranching,
15 and the petroleum industry; the birthplace of rock and roll legend
16 Roy Orbison, the town is also home to Vernon College and the Red
17 River Valley Museum, which chronicles the history, culture, and
18 geography of the region; and

19 WHEREAS, Formed in the mid-19th century, the Waggoner Ranch,
20 south of Vernon, became the largest ranch in the state under one
21 fence, and it is a five-time winner of the Texas Ranch Roundup; the
22 Santa Rosa Palomino Club is a renowned precision equestrian riding
23 club, and the club's annual Santa Rosa Roundup in Vernon draws
24 thousands of visitors and top professional rodeo riders; residents

1 and visitors alike also enjoy the picnic every May at Doan's
2 Crossing, a more than 130-year tradition that is one of the oldest
3 annual events in Texas; and

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

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
10 Legislature hereby recognize March 8, 2017, as Wilbarger County and
11 City of Vernon Day at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting
12 delegation sincere best wishes for an informative and enjoyable
13 stay in Austin.