

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Each year, St. Patrick's Day is celebrated on March
2 17, and this occasion provides a welcome opportunity to honor the
3 origins of the event and to highlight the many contributions that
4 individuals of Irish descent have made to the Lone Star State; and

5 WHEREAS, Born into a wealthy Romano-British family in the 4th
6 century, St. Patrick was kidnapped at the age of 16 by Irish raiders
7 and taken captive to the Emerald Isle; according to his writings,
8 divine intervention allowed him to escape, and he entered the
9 priesthood soon after; he later returned to Ireland and spent
10 nearly 30 years teaching the island's residents about his faith,
11 thereby becoming the principal champion of Irish Christianity in
12 legend and folklore; St. Patrick's Day, which commemorates the day
13 of his death in 461, has become a celebration of Irish heritage
14 around the world, and in recent decades the government of Ireland
15 has made the observance a centerpiece of its efforts to showcase the
16 country and its culture; and

17 WHEREAS, One of the earliest Irish residents of Texas was
18 Hugh O'Connor, who served as governor of the Spanish territory from
19 1767 to 1770; natives of Ireland also played a central role in the
20 settlement of Texas in the early 1800s, including empresarios James
21 McGloin, John McMullen, and James Power, who brought dozens of
22 Irish families to South Texas and the Gulf Coast; and

23 WHEREAS, All three of these men participated in the Texas
24 Revolution, as did Irishmen such as John Joseph Linn, Francis Moore

1 Jr., and Thomas William Ward; a dozen individuals from the Emerald
2 Isle died defending the Alamo, and 100 Irish-born troops helped win
3 the independence of Texas in the decisive Battle of San Jacinto; and

4 WHEREAS, The number of immigrants from Ireland grew
5 dramatically in the mid-1800s, and several prominent Irish natives
6 made their mark during that period; Samuel McKinney was an early
7 president of Austin College, Father Michael Sheehan established the
8 first Catholic church in Austin and became one of the first
9 full-time Catholic chaplains in the U.S. Army, and Peter Gallagher
10 served as a Texas Ranger and helped organize Pecos County; later in
11 the 19th century, Irishman John William Mallet served as the first
12 faculty chair at The University of Texas at Austin, and artist Henry
13 Arthur McArdle produced many famous paintings inspired by Texas
14 history, some of which now hang in the State Capitol; and

15 WHEREAS, Today, Irish culture is celebrated in formal
16 programs such as the Center for Irish Studies at the University of
17 St. Thomas in Houston, as well as in statewide St. Patrick's Day
18 celebrations, and it is appropriate to join in recognizing the
19 significant role that Irish Americans have played in the story of
20 the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
22 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the state's vital Irish heritage
23 and extend Happy St. Patrick's Day wishes to all Irish Americans.

Murphy
Fallon
Miller

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. 802

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 802 was adopted by the House on March 16, 2017, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House