

By: Stephenson

H.R. No. 813

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Residents of Jackson County are gathering in Austin
2 on March 14, 2017, to celebrate Jackson County Day at the State
3 Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, Part of the Coastal Prairie, what is now Jackson
5 County was once inhabited by the Karankawa people, and it is thought
6 that the early European explorers Cabeza de Vaca and La Salle
7 visited the region; in the 1820s, a number of the "Old 300" families
8 in Stephen F. Austin's first colony arrived, and the communities
9 they founded became known as the Alabama Settlement because so many
10 of the new arrivals had previously resided in that state; and

11 WHEREAS, The area played a central role in the Texas
12 Revolution, serving as a training ground for Texan forces and
13 suffering destruction at the hands of the Mexican Army; after
14 independence was won in 1836, Jackson County was one of the original
15 23 counties formed in the newly established republic; and

16 WHEREAS, Cattle ranching and farming became the backbone of
17 the local economy in the mid-1800s, and these businesses remain
18 important to the county today, with rice, corn, and cotton being
19 prominent crops; moreover, oil and natural gas production have
20 employed many area residents since reserves were discovered in the
21 1930s; and

22 WHEREAS, The town of Edna was established in the 1880s as a
23 stop on a new railroad that was built through the coastal region; it
24 quickly eclipsed the existing county seat, Texana, and in 1883,

1 Edna became the center of government operations; other communities
2 in the county include Francitas, Ganado, LaSalle, La Ward, Lolita,
3 and Vanderbilt; and

4 WHEREAS, With Lake Texana and Lavaca Bay, Jackson County is a
5 great place for boating, fishing, and hiking, and these activities
6 draw many people to sites such as the Brackenridge Recreation
7 Complex, which includes the Brackenridge and Texana parks and
8 campgrounds, as well as the Main Event Center; hunting and
9 bird-watching are also popular, and visitors can learn about local
10 history at the Texana Museum and Old Jail House in Edna; and

11 WHEREAS, Celebrating their rich and colorful history as they
12 work together to build an even brighter future, the citizens of
13 Jackson County may take justifiable pride in the important role
14 their unique region continues to play in the story of the Lone Star
15 State; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
17 Legislature hereby recognize March 14, 2017, as Jackson County Day
18 at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation best
19 wishes for an informative and enjoyable stay in Austin.