

By: Sheffield

H.R. No. 884

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Students, faculty, and staff from Tarleton State  
2 University are gathering in Austin on March 21, 2017, in  
3 celebration of Tarleton State University's centennial as the  
4 founding member of The Texas A&M University System and Tarleton  
5 State University Day at the State Capitol; and

6           WHEREAS, The school was established in 1899 as John Tarleton  
7 College, a four-year liberal arts college, with an endowment from a  
8 Stephenville landowner and namesake; and

9           WHEREAS, Tarleton's ninth president, James F. Cox, rallied  
10 community support and encouraged Texas Agricultural and Mechanical  
11 College president W. B. Bizzell and the Texas Legislature to form a  
12 union between Tarleton and the strong state institution that would  
13 become Texas A&M University; and

14           WHEREAS, During the 35th Legislature, elected officials and  
15 leaders from the Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College visited  
16 Stephenville to tour newly purchased farmland and review the  
17 college facilities and endowment in consideration of Tarleton's  
18 proposal to join Texas A&M; and

19           WHEREAS, John Tarleton Agricultural College was incorporated  
20 into The Texas A&M University System in 1917 and served as a  
21 two-year institution until 1959, when it again extended its  
22 academic programs to a four-year curriculum; the present-day name  
23 was adopted in 1973, when the school gained university status; and

24           WHEREAS, Much of Tarleton State University's history and

1 traditions have been shaped by its association with Texas A&M  
2 University, especially in the agricultural, mechanical, and  
3 military sciences; and

4 WHEREAS, In 1999, the Texas Legislature entrusted Tarleton  
5 State University with the establishment of Tarleton Central Texas,  
6 which became Texas A&M Central Texas 10 years later; and

7 WHEREAS, With campuses in Stephenville, Fort Worth, Waco, and  
8 Midlothian, Tarleton's enrollment surpasses 13,000 students  
9 distributed among 7 colleges and 250 academic programs; and

10 WHEREAS, Under the leadership of current president Dr. F.  
11 Dominic Dottavio, and through the backing of The Texas A&M  
12 University System Board of Regents and chancellor John Sharp,  
13 Tarleton will break ground on the first building of a permanent  
14 center in Fort Worth; and

15 WHEREAS, Long known for service to first-generation college  
16 students, personal attention, warmth, and a faculty and staff focus  
17 on students, Tarleton is diligent in its efforts to remain one of  
18 the most efficient and affordable universities in the state and  
19 across the nation, while maintaining one of the fastest growth  
20 rates among universities in Texas; and

21 WHEREAS, A forward-looking institution with a long history  
22 and rich traditions, Tarleton State University continues to provide  
23 its students with an outstanding education and a solid foundation  
24 for achievement; now, therefore, be it

25 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
26 Legislature hereby recognize March 21, 2017, as Tarleton State  
27 University Day at the State Capitol and congratulate Tarleton State

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1 University on its Centennial Celebration as a member of The Texas  
2 A&M University System.