

By: Hefner

H.R. No. 1519

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Rains County are visiting Austin
2 on April 25, 2017, to celebrate Rains County Day at the State
3 Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, Situated between Lake Tawakoni and Lake Fork
5 Reservoir, Rains County is blessed with an abundant water supply
6 and fertile soil characteristic of the Blackland Prairie region;
7 the county was formed in the late 1800s from Hopkins, Hunt, and Wood
8 Counties and named in honor of Emory Rains, an early pioneer who
9 served in the Congress of the Republic of Texas; and

10 WHEREAS, Rains County initially prospered as an agricultural
11 and ranching center and today enjoys a diverse economy that
12 includes oil production, manufacturing, and tourism; and

13 WHEREAS, The county seat, Emory, which was originally known
14 as Springville, is now the county's largest town, with a population
15 of approximately 1,200; it is home to the annual Eagle Fest
16 celebration held in the winter, when the area lakes are the home of
17 many American bald eagles and other rare birds; and

18 WHEREAS, The City of Point was incorporated in the 1960s and
19 is recognized as the birthplace of the National Farmers Union, an
20 organization that has grown to include 200,000 members; the 10
21 founding fathers of the NFU are memorialized by a historic monument
22 in the city, which incorporates a statue of the union's founder,
23 Isaac Newton Gresham, and a display of the flags of the NFU's member
24 states; and

1 WHEREAS, The county's youngest municipality, East Tawakoni,
2 was incorporated in 1967 and has experienced significant growth in
3 recent years; this resort area offers residents the benefits of a
4 relaxed rural community while providing easy access to Dallas;
5 notably, the city is connected to its counterpart, West Tawakoni in
6 Hunt County, by the new Two-Mile Bridge; completed in 2016, this
7 impressive structure replaced the original Two-Mile Bridge, which
8 was built across Lake Tawakoni in 1959 and was the longest bridge
9 serving a farm-to-market road at the time of its construction; and

10 WHEREAS, One of the smallest counties in the state, but one of
11 the fastest growing in the nation, Rains County is indeed playing a
12 vital role in the prosperity of the Lone Star State, and it is a
13 pleasure to join with our fellow Texans in saluting the county and
14 its fine citizens; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
16 Legislature hereby recognize April 25, 2017, as Rains County Day at
17 the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation sincere
18 best wishes for a meaningful and memorable stay in Austin.