

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Lufkin are celebrating the 50th
2 anniversary of the Ellen Trout Zoo on June 17, 2017; and

3 WHEREAS, In 1965, local businessman Walter W. Trout and the
4 Lufkin Rotary Club proposed establishing a zoo that would feature
5 the fauna of East Texas, but when Mr. Trout received a baby
6 hippopotamus as a gift, the focus of the zoo shifted to include more
7 exotic creatures; and

8 WHEREAS, The zoo was officially opened on June 17, 1967, and
9 named in honor of Mr. Trout's mother, with his granddaughter
10 Barbara cutting the ribbon; in 1983, it became the fifth zoo in
11 Texas to be accredited by the American Association of Zoological
12 Parks and Aquariums, and the following year, the Friends of Ellen
13 Trout Zoo was created to help the zoo promote conservation, acquire
14 new animals, build new exhibits, and purchase equipment; and

15 WHEREAS, Today, the Ellen Trout Zoo draws some 150,000
16 visitors each year from across East Texas and western Louisiana
17 with the opportunity to see a variety of wild animals, including
18 Maasai giraffes, southern white rhinoceroses, Malayan tigers, and
19 the largest zoo colony of cotton-top tamarin monkeys in the United
20 States; since 2002, the state-of-the-art Hippoquarium has allowed
21 visitors to view the zoo's two hippos in a natural river setting;
22 the zoo also features a miniature train, a fishing lake, a hiking
23 trail, a playground, and picnic areas; and

24 WHEREAS, More than 10,000 area students visit the facility

1 each year to learn more about the natural world; in addition, the
2 zoo is active in several important conservation efforts to help
3 preserve and increase the populations of a variety of animals,
4 including the Louisiana pine snake and the East Texas black bear,
5 and it has also provided support to protect the Orinoco crocodile,
6 the clouded leopard, jaguars, and other species whose survival is
7 at risk; and

8 WHEREAS, For half a century, the Ellen Trout Zoo has proven to
9 be an invaluable cultural and educational resource, delighting
10 residents and visitors alike with its unique collection of some of
11 the world's most remarkable creatures; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
13 Legislature hereby commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Ellen
14 Trout Zoo and extend to the zoo's staff, volunteers, and guests
15 sincere best wishes for a meaningful and memorable celebration;
16 and, be it further

17 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
18 prepared for the Ellen Trout Zoo as an expression of high regard by
19 the Texas House of Representatives.

Ashby

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. 2371

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 2371 was adopted by the House on May 25, 2017, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House