

By: Johnson of Dallas

H.R. No. 2525

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, In the 1930s, the Texas Centennial Commission
2 selected Dallas as the site for the celebration of the 100th
3 anniversary of the state's independence from Mexico; and

4 WHEREAS, The event was designed to draw the world's attention
5 to the Lone Star State, and Dallas was chosen over other cities
6 because of its central location for out-of-state visitors and the
7 availability of Fair Park, home of the State Fair of Texas; civic
8 leaders committed themselves to the \$25 million project, and in
9 under a year, dozens of buildings were renovated or constructed
10 under the direction of famed Dallas architect George Dahl, who
11 fused southwestern themes and contemporary styles to tell the
12 stories of the state's history, culture, natural beauty, economy,
13 and innovation; and

14 WHEREAS, On June 6, 1936, the exposition opened to large
15 crowds; more than 6 million people visited Fair Park over the next
16 six months, among them President Franklin Delano Roosevelt; with
17 nationwide publicity, the event established Dallas as a modern,
18 dynamic destination and helped lift the city out of the Great
19 Depression; the business leaders who organized the fair went on to
20 form the Dallas Citizens Council, which continues to wield
21 tremendous influence in the civic sphere; moreover, the event
22 increased tourism beyond Dallas and provided nationwide publicity
23 for Texas as an exciting place to live; and

24 WHEREAS, Fair Park is admired today as one of the world's

1 largest and loveliest collections of art deco architecture and art,
2 and it stands as the nation's only intact, unaltered world's fair
3 site from the early 20th century; choosing Dallas as the site for
4 the 2036 Texas Bicentennial Exposition would energize renovation
5 efforts and also spur infrastructure improvements in South Dallas
6 and other areas of the city; and

7 WHEREAS, The Centennial Exposition played a pivotal role in
8 the evolution of Dallas as a major metropolis, and it would be most
9 fitting for the next such celebration to take place at historic Fair
10 Park; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
12 Legislature hereby express its support for the selection of Dallas
13 as host of the 2036 Texas Bicentennial Exposition.