

**SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 281**

**WHEREAS**, Proud residents of Rockwall County are gathering in Austin February 26-28, 2017, to celebrate Rockwall County Days at the State Capitol; and

**WHEREAS**, Situated on the gently rolling Blackland Prairie of North Texas, the region was inhabited by members of the Caddo and Cherokee tribes before the first European resident, John O. Heath, settled on the East Fork of the Trinity River in 1846; Rockwall County was established in 1873, taking its name from an underground rock formation; and

**WHEREAS**, The smallest county in Texas, yet among the fastest growing, Rockwall County today boasts a population of approximately 90,000 people who are committed to economic development while maintaining their bustling downtowns and small-community atmosphere; and

**WHEREAS**, The county seat, Rockwall, was named by early explorer T. U. Wade, who discovered a large rock wall when digging a well in the mid-1800s; dedicated to preserving their community's rich heritage and family-friendly environment, residents and civic leaders are working hard to keep a small-town feel to a vibrant city even as its population continues to grow; and

**WHEREAS**, The city of Heath boasts a premier residential community located along the picturesque shores of Lake Ray Hubbard, and its residents enjoy high property values, low tax rates, and exemplary schools; and

**WHEREAS**, Looking to the future with a strong chamber of commerce that supports local businesses, Royse City, too, is making it a priority to preserve its roots; with a lively

downtown and superior schools, it has truly become an ideal spot to call home; and

**WHEREAS**, In an area known for its rich blackland soil, the town of McLendon-Chisholm dates back to the mid-1800s and is partially named for P. A. McLendon, an area landowner, who encouraged growth when he built a store and a blacksmith shop before the community merged with another to become the inviting town it is today; and

**WHEREAS**, Mobile City is the county's newest incorporated town and its smallest, with nearly 200 residents; additionally, its land area of just 0.02 square miles distinguishes it as having the highest population density of any municipality in Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, Rockwall County is an exceptional place to live, work, and raise a family, and its citizens may take justifiable pride in their community's unique contributions to the story of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 85th Legislature, hereby recognize February 26-28, 2017, as Rockwall County Days at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation sincere best wishes for a meaningful and memorable stay in Austin.

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 27, 2017.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate