

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 297

WHEREAS, Residents of Fannin County are gathering at the Texas State Capitol on February 28, 2017, to celebrate Fannin County Day, and this occasion provides an opportunity to recognize the rich history and significant accomplishments of this notable part of the Lone Star State; and

WHEREAS, The first nonnative settlements in the area that would become Fannin County were established in 1836, the year Texas won its independence from Mexico; when the county was formed the following year, it took its name from Colonel James Walker Fannin, Jr., a commander in the Texas revolutionary army, who had been killed in the Goliad Massacre; Bonham, the county seat, was named for another hero of the Texas Revolution, James Bonham, who died at the Alamo and who is now honored with a statue at the county courthouse; and

WHEREAS, A land of gently rolling hills that are bounded by the Red River to the north, Fannin County provides good land for farming and ranching, and those pursuits have been economic mainstays since the county was established; today, cattle, corn, wheat, milo, pecans, and hay are key products, and the many acres of farmland in the county create a tranquil, pastoral landscape; other industries, such as communications and manufacturing, help to strengthen and diversify the economy; and

WHEREAS, Bonham, with a population of approximately 10,000, is the county's largest city; it was the hometown of Sam Rayburn, the legendary Texas politician who was a member of Congress for 48 years and who still ranks as the longest-serving speaker of the United States House of Representatives; his legacy is recalled

at the Sam Rayburn Library and Museum and at the Sam Rayburn House Museum; in addition, Bonham is the site of the Fannin County Museum of History, the Creative Arts Center, and Fort Inghlish Park, which contains several restored log cabins from the 1830s and a replica of the stockade erected in the vicinity by early settlers; and

WHEREAS, The county also offers a number of attractions for outdoor enthusiasts; Lake Bonham comprises more than 1,000 acres of water, and is bordered by a golf course and camping facilities; other lakes are found at Bonham State Park and the Caddo National Grasslands preserve, which offer opportunities for hiking, fishing, biking, and other activities; and

WHEREAS, The hardworking residents of Fannin County may take pride in their area's rich history, productive businesses, and abundant recreational activities, and it is indeed fitting to pay tribute to their many contributions to the State of Texas; now, therefore, be it

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

Hall

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 28, 2017.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate