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By:  Paddie H.R. No. 532

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Proud residents of Harrison County are gathering to celebrate Harrison County Day at the State Capitol on February 27, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Situated among the rolling Piney Woods of East Texas, Harrison County was established by the Republic of Texas in 1839 and named after Texas revolutionary leader Jonas Harrison; the city of Marshall was founded in 1841 and became the county seat the following year; and

WHEREAS, Cotton was the basis for the county's economy for many years and continued to be important well into the 20th century; in addition, the red and white clay soils of the region are excellent for stoneware, and the county is home to numerous pottery companies, including Marshall Pottery, which was established in 1896 and remains one of the largest manufacturers of red clay pots in the nation; the area's diverse economy is further enhanced by the lumber industry, oil and gas production, manufacturing, and ranching and farming; and

WHEREAS, Outdoor enthusiasts may take advantage of the fine opportunities for camping, hiking, fishing, and boating at Caddo Lake State Park, home of the only natural lake in Texas, while those interested in the county's past can appreciate the revitalized downtown Marshall; the 1901 County Courthouse and the Texas and Pacific Railway Museum and Depot have been restored, and the nearby Ginocchio National Historic District preserves several other fine examples of early Texas architecture; additionally, the Starr Family Home State Historic Site showcases a family that was a major contributor to the growth of the railroad and cotton industries and the settling of the frontier of Texas in the late 1800s; and

WHEREAS, The educational needs of Harrison County are met by such fine institutions as Wiley College, East Texas Baptist University, and Texas State Technical College; those schools' cultural offerings are supplemented by the Michelson Museum of Art, which features work by several important early 20th century artists; and

WHEREAS, Residents and visitors alike enjoy the county's colorful annual festivals, including the FireAnt Festival in October and the yearly Wonderland of Lights; and

WHEREAS, Celebrating their rich heritage as they work toward a bright tomorrow, the citizens of Harrison County may indeed take great pride in their unique contribution to the history and culture of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby recognize February 27, 2019, as Harrison County Day at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation sincere best wishes for an informative and enjoyable stay in Austin.