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R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, March 2, 2020, marks the 184th anniversary of the adoption of the Texas Declaration of Independence, the moment in 1836 when proud Texans proclaimed an independent republic and took the first steps down a road that would lead, nine years later, to Texas joining the Union as the 28th state; and

WHEREAS, The delegates to the Convention of 1836 assembled on March 1 at Washington-on-the-Brazos, meeting in an unfinished building in bitterly cold weather; even as they set about forging a new nation, the defenders of the Alamo were preparing to face the final assault by the troops of General Antonio López de Santa Anna; and

WHEREAS, Adopted on March 2, the Declaration of Independence listed many grievances against the government of Mexico, citing, among other things, its despotism, violence, and abridgement of civil liberties; the document concluded by boldly declaring "that the people of Texas do now constitute a free, Sovereign, and independent republic, and are fully invested with all the rights and attributes which properly belong to independent nations"; and

WHEREAS, Five copies of the declaration were immediately dispatched to Béxar, Goliad, Nacogdoches, Brazoria, and San Felipe, and another 1,000 copies were distributed as printed handbills; on March 6, the men of the Alamo made their heroic last stand, and nearly seven weeks after that, General Sam Houston and his 900 troops, with the cry of "Remember the Alamo!" on their lips, defeated Santa Anna's army at San Jacinto, bringing an end to Mexican rule in Texas; and

WHEREAS, One of the pivotal dates in Texas history, March 2 continues to be celebrated annually by Texans across the length and breadth of the state; on this occasion, Texas Independence Day, they reflect upon the freedoms they enjoy and honor the courage and sacrifice of the men and women who, against the odds, brought these blessings to pass; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby commemorate Texas Independence Day 2020 and pay tribute to the memory of those individuals who founded the Republic of Texas.