

By: Craddick

H.C.R. No. 44

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Midland and Odessa are gathering
2 in Austin February 4-6, 2019, to celebrate Midland-Odessa Days at
3 the State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, Set only 20 miles apart in the ranching and oil
5 country of West Texas, these vibrant Texas cities got their start as
6 stops on the Texas and Pacific Railway in the 1880s; by 1890,
7 Midland was one of the most important centers for shipping cattle in
8 Texas; and

9 WHEREAS, Odessa began its rapid growth with the discovery of
10 oil in the Permian Basin in the 1920s, and by 1929, Midland was home
11 to 36 oil companies; today, Midland continues to be the financial
12 and administrative capital of the Permian Basin, while Odessa
13 remains the center for the region's oil processing and
14 distribution; and

15 WHEREAS, Odessa and Midland boast many fine historical and
16 cultural attractions; in Odessa, the Presidential Archives &
17 Leadership Library is the only museum in the nation dedicated to the
18 history of the office of the presidency; the families of both Bush
19 presidents have called Midland and Odessa home, and the archive
20 features a restored house where the Bush family once resided; and

21 WHEREAS, The Ellen Noël Art Museum, one of only two
22 Smithsonian affiliates in Texas, features world-class exhibits
23 year-round, and the Parker House Ranching Museum evokes the way of
24 life of a prominent Texas ranching family; the Haley Memorial

1 Library & History Center houses the first bell to hang in the Alamo,
2 as well as vast resources of oral and written history about the
3 cowboy; and

4 WHEREAS, Situated between Midland and Odessa is the Wagner
5 Noël Performing Arts Center, a state-of-the-art facility boasting a
6 total of 2,000 seats between its theater and recital hall, which
7 brings in myriad shows to impress a variety of audiences; and

8 WHEREAS, Visitors and residents alike enjoy the Stonehenge
9 replica on the campus of The University of Texas of the Permian
10 Basin, as well as live productions at the replica of Shakespeare's
11 Globe Theatre on the campus of Odessa College; furthermore, the
12 Midland Festival Ballet, the Midland-Odessa Symphony and Chorale,
13 and the award-winning Midland Community Theatre offer live
14 performances that inspire and entertain; and

15 WHEREAS, The White-Pool house is the first residential home
16 in Odessa and proudly displays items from both the White and Pool
17 families; also located in Odessa and enjoyed by more than 10,000
18 visitors every year is the nation's second-largest meteor crater
19 and adjoining museum; and

20 WHEREAS, Midland's Museum of the Southwest offers displays of
21 the art and archaeology of the American Southwest, as well as the
22 winning Kentucky Derby history of one of Midland's prominent
23 families; the interactive exhibits of the Permian Basin Petroleum
24 Museum present the geology and history of oil while helping to
25 inspire entrepreneurs of the future; and

26 WHEREAS, Odessa features the Chris Kyle Memorial Plaza, which
27 honors the former Navy SEAL who was born in Odessa, and also pays

1 tribute to past, current, and future veterans who have served our
2 country so unselfishly; the Midland Army Air Field Museum preserves
3 the history of the largest bombardier training school in World War
4 II and also highlights the contributions that West Texans made to
5 the war effort; and

6 WHEREAS, For more than a century, the dynamic cities of
7 Midland and Odessa have been at the economic and cultural hub of
8 West Texas, and their citizens continue to celebrate their rich
9 history as they work hard to build a prosperous future; now,
10 therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the 86th Legislature of the State of Texas
12 hereby recognize February 4-6, 2019, as Midland-Odessa Days at the
13 State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation best wishes for
14 an informative and enjoyable stay in Austin.