

By: Lambert

H.R. No. 177

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Members of the Texas Midwest Community Network are
2 visiting the State Capitol on February 4, 2019; and

3 WHEREAS, Founded in 1994, TMCN grew out of a business forum
4 sponsored by *Abilene Reporter-News*, the Abilene Chamber of
5 Commerce, and West Texas Utilities; participants recognized that
6 they could better address the economic challenges of the day by
7 uniting the efforts of small towns and rural communities across the
8 region; demonstrating a strong spirit of cooperation, they formed a
9 network of 28 community members in a 20-county area surrounding
10 Abilene and began to share ideas and resources; and

11 WHEREAS, The organization received early financial support
12 from Texas Rural Communities; today, it is supported by membership
13 dues, programming, partnerships, and the publication of an annual
14 travel guide; it has grown to include 51 communities in 31
15 contiguous counties and focuses on community development,
16 marketing for economic development and tourism, events for
17 leadership development and resource connections, and communication
18 with public officials on issues confronting the region; fostering
19 greater civic engagement among area citizens, it encourages
20 community-wide participation in its networking events; and

21 WHEREAS, Over the course of a quarter century, the Texas
22 Midwest Community Network has provided a dynamic venue for regional
23 cooperation, and in so doing, it has amplified the important
24 concerns of small towns and contributed significantly to their

1 prosperity and cohesion; now, therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
3 Legislature hereby recognize the members of the Texas Midwest
4 Community Network on the occasion of their visit to the State
5 Capitol and extend to them sincere best wishes for continued
6 success; and, be it further

7 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
8 prepared for the organization as an expression of high regard by the
9 Texas House of Representatives.