

By: VanDeaver

H.R. No. 524

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Many proud citizens of Lamar County are visiting the
2 State Capitol on February 27 and 28, 2019, to celebrate the role
3 this Northeast Texas county has played in the annals of the Lone
4 Star State; and

5 WHEREAS, At the time of the Republic of Texas, present-day
6 Lamar County was located within the boundaries of Red River County;
7 population growth led the Fifth Congress of the republic to
8 establish Lamar County on December 17, 1840, and the current
9 boundaries were drawn 30 years later when a portion of land was
10 carved out for the creation of Delta County; and

11 WHEREAS, Lamar County's namesake was the fourth president of
12 the Republic of Texas, Mirabeau B. Lamar; the small settlement of
13 Lafayette was the first county seat, and Mount Vernon later served
14 briefly in that capacity until the town of Paris was founded on 50
15 acres donated by George W. Wright; Paris has served as the county
16 seat since 1844; and

17 WHEREAS, At the turn of the century, Lamar County remained
18 primarily rural, and although the population of Paris had grown to
19 more than 9,000, no other community exceeded 1,000 residents; the
20 industrial economy gradually began to make gains on agriculture in
21 the 20th century as people moved into towns and smaller
22 communities, and Paris played an increasingly important role in the
23 economy of Northeast Texas; and

24 WHEREAS, Today, Paris is a regional hub for manufacturing,

1 retail trade, and medical care; it is home to a number of Fortune
2 500 companies, including Campbell Soup Company, which produces such
3 products as Pace Picante Sauce and Prego Italian sauces in its Paris
4 plant, and Kimberly-Clark, makers of Huggies diapers; also
5 contributing to the city's economy are BodyGuard Truck Accessories,
6 a global after-market truck parts distributor, and J. Skinner
7 Baking, producers of Hostess, Little Debbie, and Walmart baked
8 goods; moreover, Paris is a prominent national center for trailer
9 manufacturing, with PJ Trailers and Load Trail helping to anchor
10 that segment of the business community; one of the area's newest
11 employers, American SpiralWeld Pipe Company, fabricates large
12 diameter cement-coated pipe for lake water transfers and municipal
13 sewer systems; the city is located within an excellent multimodal
14 transportation network, with the recent expansions of Texas Highway
15 82 and U.S. Highway 271 and the four-lane route to Interstate 30 via
16 Texas Highway 19/24 allowing improved access to the area's numerous
17 manufacturing plants and distribution centers; and

18 WHEREAS, Quality of life in Paris is enhanced by Paris Junior
19 College and several excellent independent school districts and by
20 such beautiful recreation areas as Wade Park, Lake Gibbons, Lake
21 Crook, and the Sam Bell Maxey House State Historic Site; every
22 summer, citizens enjoy the Tour de Paris bike race and concerts by
23 the Paris Municipal Band, the oldest such ensemble in the state;
24 landmarks include the Culbertson Fountain in the historic district,
25 named "the prettiest plaza in the State of Texas" by *Texas Monthly*
26 magazine, and the "third largest Eiffel Tower in the Second Largest
27 Paris," a 65-foot-tall monument constructed by local workers and

1 capped, appropriately, with a cowboy hat; and

2 WHEREAS, Lamar County is one of the Lone Star State's great
3 treasures, and it is indeed a pleasure to honor its residents as
4 they look forward to a bright and promising future; now, therefore,
5 be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
7 Legislature hereby recognize February 27 and 28, 2019, as Lamar
8 County Days at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting
9 delegation sincere best wishes for a meaningful and memorable stay
10 in Austin.