

By: Middleton

H.R. No. 592

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Anahuac was the scene of a number of pivotal  
2 incidents that helped ignite the Texas Revolution in the 1830s, and  
3 the town is indeed deserving of recognition for its seminal role in  
4 the creation of the Lone Star State; and

5           WHEREAS, Those momentous events were set in motion by the  
6 passage of the Law of 1830, under which Mexico established a series  
7 of new outposts in Texas to enforce Mexican law, collect taxes, and  
8 stem the influx of U.S. citizens into the region; that year,  
9 Lieutenant Colonel Juan Davis Bradburn and 43 other Mexican  
10 soldiers arrived at Perry's Point, where the Trinity River enters  
11 Galveston Bay, and established a fort that they named Anahuac;  
12 Colonel Bradburn soon incited the discontent of local settlers with  
13 his heavy-handed style of governance, his refusal to issue land  
14 titles, his unfair taxing practices, and the alleged criminal  
15 activity of some of his soldiers; and

16           WHEREAS, In May and June of 1832, two law partners in Anahuac,  
17 Patrick Jack and William B. Travis, took a stand against Colonel  
18 Bradburn's policies, and after the two men were arrested and  
19 incarcerated at the fort, a force of outraged Texans advanced to  
20 nearby Turtle Bayou, intent on freeing the two men; several armed  
21 skirmishes between the Mexican troops and the Texans led to the  
22 Battle of Velasco, in which the Mexican force surrendered;  
23 meanwhile, the insurgents drafted the "Turtle Bayou Resolutions" to  
24 explain their opposition to the Mexican government; ultimately, the

1 insurrection freed Jack and Travis and forced the Mexicans to  
2 abandon their outpost at Anahuac, and the incident helped set the  
3 stage for the Battle of Nacogdoches a short time later; and

4         WHEREAS, In 1835, Captain Antonio Tenorio of the Mexican army  
5 attempted to reestablish the fort and customhouse at Anahuac but  
6 was driven off by a force of 25 Texans led by William Travis; as a  
7 result of the Texan victories at Anahuac, Velsaco, and Nacogdoches,  
8 the eastern half of Texas was free of Mexican control on the eve of  
9 the Texas Revolution, which was an important factor in the decisive  
10 defeat of the Mexican army under General Santa Anna at the Battle of  
11 San Jacinto in 1836; and

12         WHEREAS, In the opinion of historian Carroll A. Lewis,  
13 Anahuac was the site of a number of important firsts as Texas sought  
14 its independence; these included the first opposition to Mexican  
15 martial law, the first written declaration challenging the  
16 authority of the central Mexican government, the first armed  
17 rebellion against Mexican forces, and the first battle casualties  
18 on both sides of the conflict; as a result, Anahuac has earned the  
19 fitting nickname of "First Stand of the Texas Revolution"; now,  
20 therefore, be it

21         RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas  
22 Legislature hereby honor Anahuac's crucial role in the struggle for  
23 Texas independence; and, be it further

24         RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
25 prepared for the City of Anahuac as an expression of high regard by  
26 the Texas House of Representatives.