

By: Springer

H.R. No. 855

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Many proud residents of Bowie gathered on June 8,
2 2017, to celebrate the certification by Guinness World Records of
3 the world's largest Bowie knife, located in Pelham Park; and

4 WHEREAS, Installed by crane on a concrete base, the giant
5 knife weighs more than 3,000 pounds and measures over 20 feet in
6 length; the stainless steel, 14-foot-5-inch blade remains
7 unsharpened, in case someone should try to climb on it; the handle
8 is made out of an enormous limb pruned from a nearby bodark tree; to
9 ensure safety and comply with local ordinances, the monument was
10 made to withstand normal seismic activity, 90-mile-per-hour winds,
11 and as much as an inch of ice; and

12 WHEREAS, The idea for the record-setting knife originated
13 with Bob Hadley, an accomplished sculptor; following his untimely
14 death in 2013, his friend Van Baize took up the cause, joining
15 forces with a fellow member of the board of the chamber of commerce,
16 Bryan Brown; as co-chairs of the Bowie Knife Project Committee,
17 they raised \$150,000 from private sources and contracted with an
18 engineering company, A.S.A.P. Waterjet Cutting Services, whose
19 Bobby Pennartz, Albert Schlabs, and Larry Hartmangruber fabricated
20 the monument; and

21 WHEREAS, Sharing a namesake with the iconic knife, the city
22 of Bowie is a fitting location for a monument to the blade made
23 famous by the Alamo hero, and this attraction is sure to prove
24 popular with visitors and local residents for years to come; now,

1 therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
3 Legislature hereby congratulate the City of Bowie on the
4 installation of a Bowie knife sculpture in Pelham Park and the
5 sculpture's certification by Guinness World Records as the world's
6 largest Bowie knife; and, be it further

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