

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 255

WHEREAS, Residents of Hopkins County are gathering in Austin on February 28, 2019, to celebrate Hopkins County Day at the State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, Hopkins County has an area of 789 square miles with both blackland prairie and piney wood terrain; originally inhabited by the Caddo and then the Cherokee people, the county was created in 1846 and named for a family of pioneers; and

WHEREAS, Corn, wheat, sheep, and cattle were important in the 19th century, but cotton became the dominant crop between 1890 and 1930; in 1937 the Carnation Milk Company opened a processing plant in the county, and its presence, in conjunction with better road and rail transportation, allowed dairy farming to become the major agricultural undertaking; by 1990 the county boasted nearly 500 dairies supplying 17 percent of the state's total milk; and

WHEREAS, Today, population in the county has grown to about 36,000, with 16,000 people living in the county seat, Sulphur Springs; dairy production continues to be a mainstay of the economy, along with food processing and distribution, cattle raising, and horse breeding; and

WHEREAS, Sulphur Springs features a number of popular attractions, including the Southwest Dairy Museum and Education Center, the Leo Saint Clair Music Box Museum, and the Hopkins County Museum and Heritage Park; the city's striking all-glass restroom downtown has drawn national attention and was the first of its kind in the United States; moreover, the area is a well-known center for aquatic recreation, with Lake Fork and

Cooper Lake State Park offering opportunities for trophy bass fishing, as well as boating and swimming; bird-watchers, hikers, and campers also seek out the county, and special events like the Texas State Champion Homemade Ice Cream Freeze Off at the Hopkins County Dairy Festival in June are enjoyed by residents and visitors alike; and

WHEREAS, Citizens of Hopkins County are working to build a prosperous future even as they honor the achievements of the past, and they may take great pride in the history and character of their notable region; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 86th Legislature, hereby recognize February 28, 2019, as Hopkins County Day at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation sincere best wishes for an informative and enjoyable stay in Austin.

Hall

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 25, 2019.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate