

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 422

WHEREAS, Amarillo residents are celebrating the return of affiliated minor league baseball to the city after a 37-year absence as the Sod Poodles ball club makes its debut in April 2019; and

WHEREAS, The new Double-A affiliate of the San Diego Padres, the Sod Poodles are the first Texas League team to call the city home since 1982, when the Amarillo Gold Sox completed a seven-year run, also as part of the Padres organization; and

WHEREAS, After launching their 2019 season at Corpus Christi on April 4, the Sod Poodles will christen their home ballpark, Hodgetown, during their April 8 home opener against the Midland RockHounds; located in downtown Amarillo, Hodgetown is a state-of-the-art baseball facility named for Jerry Hodge, who has played a leading role in getting the team established in the city; and

WHEREAS, The Sod Poodles take their name from the term that Panhandle pioneers gave to prairie dogs, and the mascot was selected from more than 3,000 proposals in the franchise's "Name the Team" contest; the quick-draw and cowboy-hat-tipping Sod Poodles depicted on two of the official team logos illustrate Amarillo's can-do spirit and hospitality; moreover, the club's colors of Amarillo Yellow, Texas Red and Blue, and Route 66 Retro Blue symbolize the proud history of the region and the Lone Star State; the team is already generating such excitement among local residents that there has been a call to make the Sod Poodle the state's unofficial Herbivorous Burrowing Rodent; and

WHEREAS, The return of affiliated minor league baseball to Amarillo marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter for the community, and it is indeed a pleasure to join all those associated with the Amarillo Sod Poodles in commemorating this momentous occasion; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 86th Legislature, hereby congratulate the Amarillo Sod Poodles on their inaugural 2019 season and extend to the team's players, coaches, and staff sincere best wishes for success this year and in seasons to come; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the team as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Seliger

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 3, 2019.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate