87R18660 CW-D

By:  White H.R. No. 625

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Throughout 2021, proud residents are celebrating the 175th anniversary of the founding of Polk County; and

WHEREAS, Situated in the East Texas Timberlands region, the county is bordered by the Neches and Trinity Rivers; prior to European settlement, the area was home to numerous Native American tribes, including the Hasinai and the Alabama and Coushatta; today, many members of the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas live on the oldest reservation in the state, an approximately 10,200-acre site in the Big Thicket, and three streams in the county, Long King, Long Tom, and Tempe, bear the names of Coushatta chiefs; and

WHEREAS, Named for President James K. Polk, an advocate for Texas statehood, Polk County was established by the first state legislature on March 30, 1846; Livingston was selected by vote as the county seat that same year, and the new county continued to attract Anglo settlers, who initially built communities along the Trinity River; Polk now encompasses five incorporated cities, Livingston, Corrigan, Onalaska, Goodrich, and Seven Oaks; and

WHEREAS, Polk County is admired by residents and visitors alike for the natural beauty of its rolling hills and majestic pine forests; tourism plays a major role in the regional economy, with outdoor enthusiasts enjoying outstanding bird-watching and such activities as fishing, boating, pontoon tours, and horseback riding at Lake Livingston; local attractions also include the Polk County Memorial Museum; and

WHEREAS, A consistent leader in timber production in Texas, Polk County supports many other industries as well, including farming and ranching; moreover, a high percentage of the workforce is involved in health care, helping to meet the needs of its growing population; and

WHEREAS, Celebrating their rich history as they work together to build a bright future, the people of Polk County may take great pride in the important role their communities continue to play in the story of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby commemorate the 175th anniversary of the founding of Polk County and extend to its citizens sincere best wishes for the future.