H.R. No. 1081

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Locally owned and operated financial institutions contribute to the economic prosperity of the Lone Star State, and First National Bank of Quitaque is celebrating its 100th year of operation in 2021; and

WHEREAS, First National Bank opened its doors on August 2, 1920, seven years before Quitaque itself was incorporated, and the bank finished its first day with total assets of $39,764.53; the bank's first president, Amos Persons, played a leading part in bringing the Fort Worth and Denver Railway to Quitaque in 1928, and the bank also helped finance the town's first school, first water system, and first electrical facility; and

WHEREAS, The bank was one of the only financial institutions in the region to stay open throughout the Great Depression, and for a time, it was the only bank in operation between Childress and Plainview; over the years, it has continued to contribute to the wider community, playing a vital role in the creation of Caprock Canyons State Park and in the designation of the park as home of the official Texas Bison Herd in 1997; in 2013, the bank was named one of the top three agricultural banks in the nation by the Independent Community Bankers of America; and

WHEREAS, For its first 60 years, the bank was located at the corner of First and Main Streets, and it moved to its present location in 1980; some longtime employees have worked for the bank for up to 40 years, and since Amos Persons, the bank has had only four presidents, including Orlin Stark, O. R. Stark Jr., Bob Ham, and Guy W. Young, who has carried on the institution's proud legacy since 1999; in 2018, FNB opened a loan office in Tulia, and the following year it upgraded the facility to a full-service branch, under the direction of branch president Alyssa Irlbeck Jones; and

WHEREAS, The bank's popular monthly newsletter, *Comings, Goings & Doings*, was established by O. R. Stark Jr. in 1953, and for 46 years, he chronicled the community's school news, farm production, crop and lake reports, local history, and many other subjects; after Mr. Stark passed away in 2000, Mr. Young took over the newsletter, which has been recognized by the American Bankers Association as the longest continuously published bank newsletter in the industry's history; and

WHEREAS, Local banks that build a record of dependability and longevity enjoy a special degree of esteem in their communities, and the staff members of First National Bank of Quitaque may indeed take great pride in their long record of service; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby commemorate the 100th anniversary of First National Bank of Quitaque and extend to all those associated with the bank sincere best wishes for continued success in their important work; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for First National Bank as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.

King of Hemphill

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1081 was adopted by the House on May 14, 2021, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House