**SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 179**

**WHEREAS**, Proud residents of Longview are marking the 150th anniversary of the founding of their community on May 17, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, The origins of Longview date back to 1870, when Ossamus Hitch Methvin deeded 100 acres to the Southern Pacific Railroad; reportedly, railroad management called the new settlement Longview, because of the impressive view from Mr. Methvin's home; a post office was established the following January, and the town was officially incorporated on May 17, 1871; for several years, Longview was the western terminus of the railroad, and it quickly became an important regional trading center as wagons from throughout East Texas journeyed to the town; originally part of Upshur County, the city became the county seat of the newly formed Gregg County in 1873; and

**WHEREAS**, Supported by the railroad and the cotton industry, Longview flourished, and by the early 20th century, the town boasted modern water, sewage, and electric systems as well as paid fire and health departments; the local economy was further enriched by the development of the East Texas Oil Field in the 1930s and the Big Inch Pipeline during World War II; and

**WHEREAS**, Longview today is a vibrant and prosperous community of more than 80,000 citizens; while the oil and railroad industries continue to play a vital role in its economy, the city has also become a regional hub for medical services, education, and business; in 2019, the Longview Chamber of Commerce was named Chamber of the Year by the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives; and

**WHEREAS**, Longview is home to the Great Texas Balloon Race, which is a beloved tradition popular with residents and visitors alike; moreover, the city offers ample opportunities for recreation at its numerous parks and trails, and audiences can enjoy world-class performances as well as local talent in the thriving arts district; and

**WHEREAS**, Celebrating their rich history as they work to build an even brighter future, the people of Longview are justifiably proud of their community, and it is indeed fitting to recognize the city's contributions to the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 87th Legislature, hereby commemorate the 150th anniversary of the city of Longview and extend to its citizens sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for the city as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Hughes

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_     President of the Senate     I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 22, 2021.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_     Secretary of the Senate\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_      Member, Texas Senate