H.R. No. 996

## RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The citizens of Ellis County take great pride in the 2 area's rich history and in a county government with a deep 3 commitment to preserving the region's heritage; and

WHEREAS, The county was established by the Texas Legislature 4 5 on December 20, 1849, and named for Richard Ellis, president of the Convention of 1836 that led to the independence of Texas; during the 6 1850s, many Czechs, Hungarians, and Germans settled in the area to 7 raise cattle on the rolling Blackland Prairie, and with the arrival 8 of the railroad in 1872, cotton farming became essential to the 9 county's economy; today, the county benefits from a diversified 10 11 economy based on cotton farming and ranching as well as cement and 12 steel production, and it is also a major hub for warehousing and distribution; and 13

14 WHEREAS, County seat Waxahachie is widely known as the Gingerbread City for its lovely Victorian homes and for 15 its 16 handsome courthouse, which was described by author James Michener as a "fairy tale palace replete with battlements and turrets and 17 spires"; the county also boasts numerous Texas Historical Markers 18 celebrating the legacy of its homes, churches, cemeteries, and 19 20 other buildings and sites; and

21 WHEREAS, The county is fortunate to have many dedicated 22 public officials who work tirelessly to preserve this rich heritage 23 while helping to build a more prosperous future; these include 24 County Judge Todd Little and the members of the Commissioners

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Court, Randy Stinson of Precinct 1, Lane Grayson of Precinct 2, Paul
Perry of Precinct 3, and Kyle Butler of Precinct 4, as well as
district clerk Krystal Valdez, county treasurer Cheryl Chambers,
and tax assessor Richard Rozier; and

5 WHEREAS, The county's expert law enforcement personnel include Sheriff Brad Norman and constables Roy Callender Jr. of 6 Precinct 1, Casey Borders of Precinct 2, Curtis Polk Jr. of Precinct 7 8 3, and Mike Jones of Precinct 4, as well as justices of the peace Chris Macon of Precinct 1, Jackie Miller Jr. of Precinct 2, Dan D. 9 10 Cox of Precinct 3, and Steve Egan of Precinct 4; the courts benefit from the efforts of district attorney Ann Montgomery, Judge Jim 11 12 Chapman of County Court at Law 1, Judge A. Gene Calvert Jr. of County Court at Law 2, and Judge Joseph R. Gallo of County of Court 13 14 at Law 3; Judge Bob Carroll presides over the 40th Judicial District 15 Court, while Judge William D. Wallace presides over the 378th Judicial District Court and Judge Cindy Ermatinger presides over 16 17 the 443rd Judicial District Court; and

WHEREAS, Both picturesque and dynamic, Ellis County is one of the great assets of the Lone Star State, and its hardworking and innovative residents continue to honor their history as they look forward to the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby pay tribute to the heritage of Ellis County and extend to the county's elected officials sincere best wishes for continued success in their important work; and, be it further

27 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be

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H.R. No. 9961 prepared for Ellis County as an expression of high regard by the2 Texas House of Representatives.

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 996 was adopted by the House on May 8, 2021, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House