

1-1 By: Blanco S.C.R. No. 11
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 9, 2021; March 18, 2021,
 1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Administration;
 1-4 April 13, 2021, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 6,
 1-5 Nays 0; April 13, 2021, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11			X	
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			

1-15 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-16 WHEREAS, The picturesque and historic community of Fort Davis
 1-17 deserves special recognition as the town with the highest elevation
 1-18 in the Lone Star State, 5,050 feet above sea level; and

1-19 WHEREAS, Completely surrounded by the Chihuahuan Desert,
 1-20 Fort Davis is situated among the Davis Mountains in what
 1-21 geographers call a "sky island," a self-contained mountainous
 1-22 region with a cooler and wetter climate than the hot, arid region
 1-23 all around it; this impressive geological formation is the result
 1-24 of volcanic activity 35 million years ago, and the area's forested
 1-25 ecology is inhabited by flora and fauna that couldn't survive in the
 1-26 desert below; for centuries, Native American groups, including the
 1-27 Mescalero Apache, used this elevated, temperate region as a refuge
 1-28 from the harsh conditions of the desert; and

1-29 WHEREAS, Fort Davis takes its name from the U.S. Army post
 1-30 that was established in 1854, a location now preserved as the Fort
 1-31 Davis National Historic Site; Brevet General Persifor F. Smith,
 1-32 commander of the Department of Texas, personally selected the site
 1-33 in part because the high elevation helped guarantee its "pure water
 1-34 and salubrious climate"; thanks to its unusual geography, the area
 1-35 was also blessed with ample timber, game, and forage for livestock,
 1-36 which benefited the soldiers of the fort, as well as the ranchers
 1-37 and other settlers who followed; through the decades, the town has
 1-38 been popular with visitors who enjoy its cool nights during the
 1-39 blistering heat of a Texas summer, a tradition that began in the
 1-40 years before air conditioning and continues to the present; and

1-41 WHEREAS, In addition to the restored fort, the area's
 1-42 attractions include the scenic beauty of Davis Mountains State Park
 1-43 and its majestic Indian Lodge hotel as well as the magnificent
 1-44 ponderosa pines of the Davis Mountains Preserve; motorists enjoy
 1-45 driving the Davis Mountains Scenic Loop, which is the highest
 1-46 section of the Texas highway system, reaching an altitude of 6,700
 1-47 feet; star-filled nights are another boon of the town's elevation,
 1-48 and they are best experienced at the Star Parties hosted by the
 1-49 nearby McDonald Observatory; and

1-50 WHEREAS, Uniquely situated amid rugged mountains and below
 1-51 the spectacular West Texas sky, Fort Davis is beloved by residents
 1-52 and visitors alike, and it has earned a well-deserved reputation as
 1-53 one of the Lone Star State's "top" destinations; now, therefore, be
 1-54 it

1-55 RESOLVED, That the 87th Legislature of the State of Texas
 1-56 hereby designate Fort Davis as the official Highest Town in Texas;
 1-57 and, be it further

1-58 RESOLVED, That, in accordance with the provisions of Section
 1-59 391.003(e), Government Code, this designation remain in effect
 1-60 until the 10th anniversary of the date this resolution is finally
 1-61 passed by the legislature.

1-62 * * * * *