

1-1 By: Hughes, Hall S.C.R. No. 32
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 12, 2021; April 1, 2021, read
 1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Water, Agriculture & Rural
 1-4 Affairs; April 20, 2021, reported favorably by the following vote:
 1-5 Yeas 9, Nays 0; April 20, 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	X			
1-16	X			

1-17 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-18 WHEREAS, The Northeast Texas Trail is a 130-mile-long
 1-19 converted rail corridor, stretching from Farmersville through 19
 1-20 rural towns and 7 counties to New Boston; and

1-21 WHEREAS, Since 2012, the Northeast Texas Trail Coalition has
 1-22 advocated for turning this previously unused land into a
 1-23 comprehensive system of parks, paths, and protected natural areas;
 1-24 under the group's vision, the NETT will be the longest pedestrian,
 1-25 bicycle, and equestrian trail in Texas, and it will link population
 1-26 centers, public facilities, and neighborhoods across the region;
 1-27 and

1-28 WHEREAS, The construction of the NETT is expected to help
 1-29 revitalize the communities along the trail's route, many of which
 1-30 are severely disadvantaged; according to a 2014 economic impact
 1-31 assessment, the project is a low-cost investment that will create
 1-32 jobs, increase tourism, conserve valuable land, and bolster
 1-33 property values; furthermore, studies show that when citizens have
 1-34 access to safe and well-maintained outdoor spaces that can be used
 1-35 for recreation, relaxation, and exercise, their overall quality of
 1-36 life is improved; and

1-37 WHEREAS, The development of the Northeast Texas Trail is
 1-38 likely to have a positive impact on the health, welfare, and
 1-39 economic prosperity of the region's rural communities, and the
 1-40 possibility of making it a part of the Texas Parks and Wildlife
 1-41 system should be explored; now, therefore, be it

1-42 RESOLVED, That the 87th Legislature of the State of Texas
 1-43 hereby request the lieutenant governor and the speaker of the House
 1-44 of Representatives to direct the appropriate house and senate
 1-45 committees to conduct an interim study regarding the feasibility of
 1-46 integrating the Northeast Texas Trail into the state park system;
 1-47 and, be it further

1-48 RESOLVED, That the studies identify next steps in planning
 1-49 and changes required in state statutes, agency administrative
 1-50 rules, and local ordinances, and that the committees consider in
 1-51 their studies management and governance issues and coordination, as
 1-52 well as the initial and ongoing resources needed to fully
 1-53 incorporate the NETT into the state park system; and, be it further

1-54 RESOLVED, That the committees submit full reports, including
 1-55 findings and recommendations, to the 88th Legislature no later than
 1-56 December 31, 2022.

1-57 * * * * *