

By: Middleton, Creighton

S.R. No. 246

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Galveston County are gathering in
2 Austin on March 1, 2023, to celebrate Galveston County Day at the
3 State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, Covering approximately 870 square miles of lush
5 grasslands, warm beaches, and sparkling waters, Galveston County
6 was first inhabited by the Karankawa people and later, several
7 Spanish expeditions passed through the area; the county was formed
8 out of portions of Harrisburg, Liberty, and Brazoria Counties in
9 1838 and named after Bernardo de Gálvez, who supported the United
10 States in the Revolutionary War; and

11 WHEREAS, Galveston, the county's seat, is the birthplace of
12 the national holiday Juneteenth, which marks the day in 1865 that
13 Union Major General Gordon Granger issued General Order No. 3,
14 announcing the freedom of more than 250,000 enslaved Black people
15 in the state; by the late 1800s, the city had become a center for
16 banking and a national hub for immigration, however during the
17 Galveston hurricane of 1900, the deadliest natural disaster in U.S.
18 history, the town was devastated and thousands of lives were lost;
19 in the wake of the storm, the Galveston seawall was constructed; and

20 WHEREAS, The ports of Galveston and Texas City contributed
21 greatly to the rebuilding of the area after the hurricane, and along
22 with the chemical and petrochemical complex, continue to be
23 important to the economic development of the county; additionally,
24 agriculture, livestock, and the fishing and shrimping industries

1 provide jobs for many residents of the region; and

2 WHEREAS, Today, Galveston County is a center for medical
3 services and marine research and is home to a number of institutions
4 of higher education; these include The University of Texas Medical
5 Branch, which encompasses schools of medicine, nursing, health
6 professions, public and population health, and graduate biomedical
7 sciences, and Texas A&M University at Galveston, which is one of six
8 state maritime academies in the nation, as well as College of the
9 Mainland and Galveston College; and

10 WHEREAS, Visitors are drawn to the county's natural beauty
11 and miles of beaches and also enjoy such family-friendly
12 attractions as the Galveston County Fair and Rodeo, the Galveston
13 Island Wild Texas Shrimp Festival, and the Blessing of the Fleet at
14 Kemah; other points of interest include the Strand Historic
15 District, Schlitterbahn Waterpark, the Galveston Island Historic
16 Pleasure Pier, Lone Star Flight Museum, and Moody Gardens; and

17 WHEREAS, Galveston County is blessed with a rich history and
18 abundant natural resources, and its citizens may take great pride
19 in their continuing contributions to the story of the Lone Star
20 State; now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 88th Texas Legislature
22 hereby recognize March 1, 2023, as Galveston County Day at the State
23 Capitol and extend a warm welcome to the visiting delegation.