

By: Birdwell

S.R. No. 308

SENATE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize the citizens of Hill County who are visiting Austin on March 16, 2023, to celebrate Hill County Day at the State Capitol and to pay tribute to this notable Texas county; and

WHEREAS, On February 7, 1853, the state legislature created Hill County from the western portion of Navarro County; it was named for Dr. George Washington Hill, the secretary of war for the Republic of Texas under President Sam Houston; and

WHEREAS, Hill County was organized on May 14, 1853, at Lexington on Jack's Branch; since then, it has grown and now has a population of 36,000 residents while maintaining its rural charm and friendliness; the restored courthouse in Hillsboro serves as a hub for all county business, and Hill College provides educational and cultural resources for area residents; the campus houses the Texas Heritage Museum, which includes a 10,000-volume library of materials on the Civil War and the official Texas Medal of Honor memorial to native Texans; and

WHEREAS, Each year the communities of Hill County host such events as the Hill County Fair, Autumnfest, the Cinco de Mayo Celebration, Pioneer Days, and Hubbard City Trade Days and Festivities; these events showcase the county's hospitality, agricultural roots, scenic beauty, and heritage-tourism attractions; and

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WHEREAS, Recreational opportunities offered by Lake Whitney State Park make it a popular destination, and visitors enjoy such activities as camping, hiking, boating, and bird-watching; astronomy enthusiasts will be pleased to know that, according to *Astronomy* magazine, Hillsboro will be the seventh-best place in the world to view the solar eclipse in April of 2024; among the many esteemed Texans who hail from the county is the legendary singer and songwriter Willie Nelson, whose birthplace is the Hill County community of Abbott; and

WHEREAS, Those who call Hill County home take justifiable pride in their county's heritage and distinctive character and in the many attributes that make it an outstanding place in which to live, work, and raise a family; the citizens of Hill County have done much to contribute to the growth and prosperity of Texas, and it is indeed fitting that the county and its residents receive special recognition; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 88th Legislature, hereby recognize March 16, 2023, as Hill County Day at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation sincere best wishes for an enjoyable stay in Austin; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared in honor of Hill County Day.