By: Shofner H.C.R. No. 6

## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Newton County provides East Texas residents and a 2 multitude of visitors with ample opportunities for outdoor recreation among scenic forests and other natural attractions; and 3 WHEREAS, The county encompasses part of the Sabine National 4 5 Forest, which features expansive, lush woodlands and is one of only four national forests in the state; the county also offers easy 6 7 access to the Big Thicket National Preserve and its pine forests, swamps, and savannas; known for their diverse wildlife and unique 8 9 ecosystems, the areas are a haven for nature enthusiasts and photographers, and they serve as ideal settings for such activities 10 11 as hiking, bird-watching, hunting, camping, and canoeing; and 12 WHEREAS, Anglers are drawn to Newton County for its excellent fishing waters; favored locations include the Sabine River, which 13 14 forms the county's eastern border with Louisiana, and Toledo Bend Reservoir, formed by a dam on the river at the northern end of the 15 16 county, which is renowned as one of the best bass fishing lakes in the nation; visitors can also enjoy boating, swimming, and 17 picnicking; in addition, the county features a number of local 18 parks, trails, and other community gathering areas that highlight 19 20 the region's picturesque environment; and 21 WHEREAS, Newton County's unique blend of forests, rivers, and 22 lakes has made the area a popular destination for those seeking 23 tranquility and outdoor adventure, and the county is indeed deserving of special recognition for its outstanding stewardship of 24

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- 1 these important natural resources; now, therefore, be it
- 2 RESOLVED, That the 89th Legislature of the State of Texas,
- 3 1st Called Session, hereby designate Newton County as the official
- 4 Forest Capital of Texas; and, be it further
- 5 RESOLVED, That, in accordance with the provisions of Section
- 6 391.003(e), Government Code, this designation remain in effect
- 7 until the 10th anniversary of the date this resolution is finally
- 8 passed by the legislature.