H.C.R. No. 71

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The State of Texas is renowned for the diversity of 2 its animal population, and select species have become iconic 3 symbols for certain locations in the state; La Salle County, a 4 renowned destination for hunting in South Texas, has become 5 associated with one of its most challenging quarries, the wild hog; 6 and

WHEREAS, These hardy animals are descended from pigs that 7 escaped into the wild as well as Eurasian wild boars that were 8 imported as exotic game in the early 1900s; feral hogs thrive in 9 many parts of the U.S. and have expanded throughout Texas; while 10 their adaptability is impressive, they are recognized as an 11 12 invasive species that poses serious problems for landowners and other animals; wild hogs forage for food by rooting, and Texas' 13 estimated population of more than three million inflicts 14 substantial damage to crops, pastures, and wildlife habitat each 15 16 year; and

WHEREAS, Hunting has been an important part of efforts to control the numbers of wild hogs, and that is especially true in La Salle County; residents and hunting enthusiasts from across the state and beyond are drawn to the area to pursue the elusive game, and the sport has a sizable impact on the local economy; the county is home to numerous ranches that offer opportunities to hunt feral hogs in addition to other game; and

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WHEREAS, Building on the popularity of feral hog hunting, the

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1 La Salle County Fair hosted the first Wild Hog Cook-Off competition in 1981; the event proved immensely popular and grew rapidly, 2 3 adding a range of categories, including the much-anticipated artistic presentation contest, in which teams are judged on the 4 5 elaborate trays they use to serve their food; today, the fair and cook-off take place every March in Cotulla, and the family-friendly 6 7 event features live music, entertainment, carnival rides, and 8 vendors in addition to the wild hog cooking contest; and

9 WHEREAS, The feral hog hunting industry and the Wild Hog 10 Cook-Off festivities are sources of pride and prosperity for the 11 residents of La Salle County, and the importance of these 12 attractions is indeed deserving of special recognition; now, 13 therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 89th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby designate La Salle County as the official Wild Hog Capital of Texas; and, be it further

17 RESOLVED, That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 18 391.003(e), Government Code, this designation remain in effect 19 until the 10th anniversary of the date this resolution is finally 20 passed by the legislature.

Guillen

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President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 71 was adopted by the House on May 1, 2025, by the following vote: Yeas 140, Nays 0, 5 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 71 was adopted by the Senate on May 9, 2025, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Date

Governor