

By: Lowe

H.C.R. No. 161

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, December 29, 2025, will mark the 180th anniversary  
2 of the admission of Texas into the Union; and

3 WHEREAS, After the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, the annexation  
4 of Texas became a subject of discussion among politicians and  
5 diplomats; in the first election following the establishment of the  
6 Republic of Texas in 1836, its citizens voted overwhelmingly in  
7 favor of annexation; however, the following year, when the  
8 republic's minister proposed annexation to the administration of  
9 U.S. President Martin Van Buren, the minister was turned down on the  
10 basis of constitutional issues and the risk of provoking a war with  
11 Mexico, and Texas subsequently withdrew its offer; Texas President  
12 Mirabeau B. Lamar continued to oppose annexation, and in his second  
13 term, Texas President Sam Houston renewed the annexation effort  
14 with no success; and

15 WHEREAS, In the early 1840s, British policy toward Texas  
16 caused a change of posture in Washington, D.C.; although Great  
17 Britain had no intention of acquiring Texas, the British opposed  
18 Texas annexation as England sought to bolster trade with Texans, to  
19 prevent the westward expansion of the United States, and to  
20 interfere in the American tariff system and institution of slavery;  
21 alarmed by these goals, U.S. President John Tyler reintroduced  
22 annexation; Texas President Houston ultimately consented to the  
23 negotiation of a treaty, but it was rejected by the U.S. Senate in  
24 June 1844; and

1       WHEREAS, President Tyler felt great urgency in the face of  
2 British ambitions and developed a new plan to annex Texas by means  
3 of a joint resolution imposing certain conditions; on February 28,  
4 1845, the U.S. Congress passed the joint resolution, which included  
5 the requirement for Texas to deliver all military, postal, and  
6 customs facilities and authority to the U.S. government; on July 4,  
7 Republic of Texas President Anson Jones presented to the Texas  
8 Congress, and a popularly-elected constitutional convention, a  
9 choice between annexation with the United States or a Mexican  
10 treaty granting peace and official recognition of Texas as an  
11 independent country; both bodies voted for the American proposal,  
12 and the annexation ordinance and constitution drafted by the  
13 convention were ratified by popular vote in October; on  
14 December 29, 1845, the U.S. Congress approved the Joint Resolution  
15 to Admit Texas as a State; it was signed by U.S. President James K.  
16 Polk, and Texas became America's 28th state; and

17       WHEREAS, Residents of the Lone Star State take great pride in  
18 their heritage as patriotic Americans, and it is indeed fitting to  
19 recognize this historic date; now, therefore, be it

20       RESOLVED, That the 89th Legislature of the State of Texas  
21 hereby commemorate the 180th anniversary of the admission of Texas  
22 into the Union on December 29, 1845.