

By: Holt

H.R. No. 98

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents are gathering in Austin on February
2 18, 2025, to celebrate Hardin County Day at the State Capitol; and

3 WHEREAS, Situated northeast of Houston, Hardin County is
4 predominantly made up of pine and hardwood forests in the East Texas
5 Timberlands region; and

6 WHEREAS, Following the Texas Revolution, the area was split
7 between the jurisdictions of Liberty and Jefferson Counties; in
8 1858, the State Legislature established Hardin County, drawing
9 territory from both parent counties; under state law, the county's
10 name honored the Hardin family of Liberty, and the county seat also
11 bore that name; in 1881, the Sabine and East Texas Railroad bypassed
12 Hardin in favor of its own newly established town, Kountze, which
13 ultimately became the county seat; and

14 WHEREAS, Early farmers in Hardin County raised corn, sweet
15 potatoes, hogs, cattle, sheep, and horses; as early as 1878,
16 loggers were floating cut timber to the Neches River and on to
17 Beaumont, and by 1881, at least two lumber-processing mills were
18 operating in the county; the subsequent arrivals of other railway
19 companies further stimulated the lumber industry; a big economic
20 boost came with the discovery of oil at Saratoga and Batson and the
21 development of the Sour Lake oil field in 1903; today, chambers of
22 commerce in Kountze, Lumberton, Silsbee, and Sour Lake promote
23 economic development in their communities; and

24 WHEREAS, Hardin County is further buoyed by its robust

1 ecotourism, which offers ample opportunities for recreation and
2 under the natural beauty of the Big Thicket National Preserve and
3 Village Creek State Park.

4 WHEREAS, Residents of Hardin County are working together to
5 build an even brighter future, and this special day provides a
6 fitting opportunity to pay tribute to the county and its people;
7 now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas
9 Legislature hereby recognize February 18, 2025, as Hardin County
10 Day at the State Capitol and extend a warm welcome to the visiting
11 delegation.