

By: Cain

H.R. No. 123

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, March 2, 2025, marks the 232nd anniversary of the
2 birth of Texas icon Sam Houston; and

3 WHEREAS, Born in Virginia in 1793, Sam Houston was the son of
4 Samuel and Elizabeth Houston; his father died when he was 13, and
5 his mother resettled the family on a farm in Tennessee; in 1809, he
6 left home to live among the Cherokees; he enlisted in the U.S. Army
7 during the War of 1812 and quickly earned promotion to third
8 lieutenant; serving under General Andrew Jackson, he demonstrated
9 great valor and leadership in the Battle of Horseshoe Bend, despite
10 suffering three near-fatal wounds; and

11 WHEREAS, General Jackson became a mentor, spurring his
12 protégé's swift rise in the military and politics; elected to the
13 U.S. House of Representatives in 1823, Mr. Houston served two terms
14 before winning the governor's race in Tennessee; he resigned two
15 years later and went to live among the Cherokees in Oklahoma, where
16 he often acted as a tribal emissary and worked to keep peace among
17 tribes; perceiving Texas as a land of promise, he relocated in 1832
18 and soon became involved in the Anglo-Texan independence movement;
19 he was a delegate from Refugio to the convention at
20 Washington-on-the-Brazos, where the Texas Declaration of
21 Independence was signed on March 2, 1836; appointed major general
22 of the new republic's army, he led his troops to victory over
23 Mexican General Santa Anna in the Battle of San Jacinto; and

24 WHEREAS, Hailed as a hero, Mr. Houston became the first

1 regularly elected president of the Republic of Texas and guided it
2 through many perils during two terms, separated by a stint
3 representing San Augustine in the Texas House; he facilitated the
4 Lone Star State's entry into the Union and then became a U.S.
5 senator, serving from 1846 to 1859; a staunch Unionist and powerful
6 orator, he strenuously opposed rising sectionalism; opposition
7 from proslavery factions caused his political fortunes to wane, but
8 after an unsuccessful run for governor in 1857, he triumphed in the
9 next gubernatorial election; as the clamor for secession rose, he
10 warned that civil war would result in the destruction of the South;
11 he refused to take the oath of loyalty to the newly formed
12 Confederate States of America, and the Texas Secession Convention
13 removed him from office; retiring from public life, he moved his
14 family to Huntsville in 1862; he died of pneumonia on July 26 of the
15 following year, at the age of 70; and

16 WHEREAS, Bold and resolute, Sam Houston was a towering figure
17 in the history of our state and nation, and his enormously
18 consequential accomplishments remain a source of inspiration
19 today; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas
21 Legislature hereby commemorate the 232nd anniversary of the birth
22 of Sam Houston.