

By: Spiller

H.R. No. 286

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Young County are gathering in
2 Austin on February 26, 2025, to celebrate Young County Day at the
3 State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, Situated in the Cross Timbers and Prairies
5 ecological region of North Central Texas, Young County was created
6 by the Texas Legislature in 1856, five years after the United States
7 Army established Fort Belknap there; the county saw many conflicts
8 between Native Americans and Anglo settlers, and during the Civil
9 War, raids forced many settlers to abandon the area; in the 1870s,
10 the federal government redoubled its efforts to suppress Native
11 American tribes in the region, and by 1880, the population had risen
12 to more than 4,700 people; and

13 WHEREAS, In its early years, the county's economy was driven
14 by farming and ranching, with cotton, corn, and wheat being key
15 crops; the arrival of railroads eased immigration into the area and
16 connected it more directly with national markets, leading to a
17 population boom and a rise in new farms; while cotton remained
18 important to the region, the 1920s brought oil and gas exploration,
19 which became a significant part of life in the area; and

20 WHEREAS, Today, Young County is home to more than 18,000
21 people, and its economy benefits from the manufacturing, retail,
22 and oil and gas industries, among others; notable communities
23 include the county seat of Graham as well as Newcastle and Olney;
24 residents and visitors enjoy recreational opportunities afforded

1 by Lake Graham and Lake Eddleman, and outdoor enthusiasts are drawn
2 to the region for activities such as boating, fishing, and hunting;
3 the county also hosts a number of annual events, among them the Food
4 Truck Championship of Texas and Crawfish and Cannons, and other
5 attractions include the grounds of Fort Belknap and the Graham
6 Drive-In Theatre, which is one of only a handful of outdoor movie
7 theaters still operating in the state; and

8 WHEREAS, The people of Young County take great pride in their
9 rich history as they work together to build an even brighter future,
10 and it is indeed fitting to honor them for their unique
11 contributions to the growth and prosperity of the Lone Star State;
12 now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas
14 Legislature hereby recognize February 26, 2025, as Young County Day
15 at the State Capitol and extend a warm welcome to the visiting
16 delegation.