

By: Harris

H.R. No. 391

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, For 46 years, Black Beauty Ranch in Murchison has
2 provided a safe haven for animals in need of rescue,
3 rehabilitation, and lifelong care; and

4 WHEREAS, Founded by renowned author and animal welfare
5 advocate Cleveland Amory in 1979, Black Beauty Ranch is a premier
6 animal sanctuary operated by the nonprofit organization Humane
7 World for Animals; named after the beloved novel by Anna Sewell, the
8 ranch stands as a symbol of compassion and a beacon of hope for
9 animals freed from cruelty, neglect, and exploitation; and

10 WHEREAS, Black Beauty Ranch's history began with the rescue
11 of 577 burros from the Grand Canyon, a landmark effort that set the
12 foundation for the ranch's mission to provide animals with a second
13 chance at life; today, the ranch spans more than 1,400 acres of
14 natural habitats in Henderson County and offers a secure refuge for
15 over 600 animals representing some 40 different species, including
16 primates, big cats, bears, horses, bison, reptiles, and livestock;
17 all animals housed at the facility were rescued from tragic
18 situations such as roadside zoos, the exotic pet trade, circuses,
19 research laboratories, and hoarding cases; and

20 WHEREAS, The ranch's dedicated team of animal care
21 professionals and veterinarians work tirelessly to meet the
22 physical, behavioral, and emotional needs of every resident,
23 ensuring they receive not only shelter but also the dignity,
24 respect, and quality of life they deserve; beyond its service to

1 vulnerable animals, the ranch has been a leader in promoting public
2 education and humane advocacy through guided tours and educational
3 programs that help visitors from across Texas and around the world
4 to better understand the importance of animal protection and
5 environmental conservation; and

6 WHEREAS, In 2024, Black Beauty Ranch stepped in to offer
7 sanctuary to animals following the closure of Puerto Rico's last
8 remaining zoo, where many had suffered from years of neglect and
9 inadequate care; this life-saving effort demonstrated the ranch's
10 capacity for large-scale rescue operations as part of its
11 continuing work to protect and rehabilitate wildlife held in
12 substandard conditions; and

13 WHEREAS, Over the past 46 years, Black Beauty Ranch has
14 exemplified the highest standards of animal welfare and ethical
15 stewardship, and it is a privilege to recognize an organization
16 that has made such a profound difference in the lives of both
17 animals and people; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas
19 Legislature hereby honor Black Beauty Ranch on its 46th anniversary
20 and commend its staff, volunteers, and supporters for their
21 exceptional dedication to the care and protection of animals in
22 need; and, be it further

23 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
24 prepared for Black Beauty Ranch as an expression of high regard by
25 the Texas House of Representatives.