

By: Johnson, West

S.R. No. 131

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud citizens and community leaders from Grand  
2 Prairie are visiting the State Capitol on February 26 and 27, 2025,  
3 and this occasion offers a welcome opportunity to honor this  
4 vibrant North Texas city; and

5 WHEREAS, Located west of downtown Dallas in Dallas, Tarrant,  
6 and Ellis Counties, Grand Prairie traces its roots back to 1863,  
7 when A. M. Dechman's wagon broke down on his trip from Jacksonville,  
8 Texas, to Fort Belknap with supplies for the army commissary; he  
9 traded his broken wagon, ox team, and \$200 for a 239-acre tract of  
10 land; and

11 WHEREAS, The community became known as Deckman, or Dechman,  
12 when a post office was constructed in 1874, and the arrival of the  
13 Texas and Pacific Railway brought additional growth; the railroad  
14 company had already started referring to the town as "Grand  
15 Prairie," which officially became the city's name in 1877; Grand  
16 Prairie was incorporated in 1902, and the area experienced a  
17 significant boom during the Second World War, when a military  
18 flight training center and an aircraft production factory were  
19 established nearby, bringing the city's population from 1,595 to  
20 approximately 18,000; and

21 WHEREAS, Today, Grand Prairie is home to more than 200,000  
22 residents, and as part of the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, it is in  
23 one of the fastest-growing regions in the nation; the Grand Prairie  
24 Chamber of Commerce has played an important role in enhancing the

1 city's economic vitality and quality of life and in promoting,  
2 strengthening, and expanding its business community; and

3 WHEREAS, Residents and visitors alike benefit from the  
4 community's many popular attractions, including the Lynn Creek Park  
5 and Marina, the Grand Prairie Historical Museum, Asia Times Square,  
6 and the Hong Kong Market; the city also hosts a number of annual  
7 events, such as the Dragon Boat Festival, the Prairie Lights  
8 Christmas display, and the Gathering at the Village; with 52 parks  
9 and 6 lake areas, outdoor enthusiasts are drawn to the city for such  
10 activities as hiking, water sports, and camping; and

11 WHEREAS, Acknowledging their rich history as they work to  
12 build an even brighter future, the citizens of Grand Prairie are  
13 justifiably proud of their community, and it is indeed fitting to  
14 honor their contributions to the story of the Lone Star State; now,  
15 therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 89th Texas Legislature  
17 hereby recognize February 26 and 27, 2025, as Grand Prairie Days at  
18 the State Capitol and extend a warm welcome to the visiting  
19 delegation.