

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 209

WHEREAS, Proud residents of Galveston County are gathering in Austin on March 6, 2025, to celebrate Galveston County Day at the State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, Covering approximately 870 square miles of lush grasslands, warm beaches, and sparkling waters, Galveston County was first inhabited by the Karankawa people and later, several Spanish expeditions passed through the area; the county was formed out of portions of Harrisburg, Liberty, and Brazoria Counties in 1838 and named after Bernardo de Gálvez, who supported the United States in the Revolutionary War; and

WHEREAS, Galveston, the county's seat, is the birthplace of the national holiday Juneteenth, which marks the day in 1865 that Union Major General Gordon Granger issued General Order No. 3, announcing the freedom of more than 250,000 enslaved Black people in the state; by the late 1800s, the city had become a center for banking and a national hub for immigration; the town was devastated, however, during the Galveston hurricane of 1900, the deadliest natural disaster in U.S. history, and thousands of lives were lost; in the wake of the storm, the Galveston seawall was constructed; and

WHEREAS, The ports of Galveston and Texas City contributed greatly to the rebuilding of the area after the hurricane, and along with the chemical and petrochemical complex, continue to be important to the economic development of the county; additionally, maritime activities, tourism, and retail sales provide jobs for many residents of the region; and

WHEREAS, Today, Galveston County is a center for medical services and marine research and is home to a number of institutions of higher education; these include The University of Texas Medical Branch, which encompasses schools of medicine, nursing, health professions, public and population health, and graduate biomedical sciences, and Texas A&M University at Galveston, which is one of six maritime academies in the nation, as well as College of the Mainland and Galveston College; and

WHEREAS, Visitors are drawn to the county's natural beauty and miles of beaches and also enjoy such family-friendly attractions as the Galveston County Fair & Rodeo, the Galveston Island Wild Texas Shrimp Festival, and the Blessing of the Fleet boat parade at the Kemah Boardwalk; other points of interest include the Strand Historic District, Schlitterbahn Waterpark, the Galveston Island Historic Pleasure Pier, and Moody Gardens; and

WHEREAS, Galveston County is blessed with a rich history and abundant natural resources, and its citizens may take great pride in their continuing contributions to the story of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

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RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 89th Legislature, hereby recognize March 6, 2025, as Galveston County Day at the State Capitol and extend a warm welcome to the visiting delegation.

Middleton, Creighton

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 6, 2025.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate

Member, Texas Senate