By: Isaac H.R. No. 6

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The Cattlemen's Texas Longhorn Registry is hosting a Heritage Texas Longhorn Sale in Duncan, Oklahoma, on September 18, 2027, providing a fitting opportunity to highlight 100 years of conservation efforts made in behalf of this iconic animal; and

WHEREAS, Known for its twisting, spreading horns, the Texas longhorn is descended from cattle brought to the region from southwestern Spain; in the latter half of the 19th century, millions of head of these half-wild cattle were driven from Texas to markets across the U.S., helping revive the state's economy after the Civil War; the spread of barbed wire fencing in the 1880s led to controlled breeding, and as ranchers crossed the animal with other stock, the true longhorn soon faced extinction; and

WHEREAS, Conservation initiatives began in 1927, when Will C. Barnes, John H. Hatton, and other U.S. Forest Service officers selected a small group of original-type longhorns to establish the first federally protected herd in the Wichita National Forest and Game Preserve in Oklahoma; a few years later, oilman Sid W. Richardson, author J. Frank Dobie, and former range inspector Graves Peeler collaborated to gather cattle for Texas state parks, with the main herd being consolidated at Fort Griffin State Park in 1948 and designated as the official State Longhorn Herd in 1969; through the decades, private ranchers and other breeders also helped maintain remnant pure or near-pure stock; and

WHEREAS, In 1990, the Cattlemen's Texas Longhorn Registry was

founded to preserve the historic breed, and the Cattlemen's Texas Longhorn Conservancy was later established to support scientific research and public outreach; students from across Texas helped name the animal as the official Large State Mammal, a designation the Legislature passed in 1995; though the original-type longhorn remains listed as critically endangered by the Livestock Conservancy, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and Texas Historical Commission continue to ably manage the state herd, using the animals for genetic preservation and educational programs; and

WHEREAS, The Texas longhorn is a living symbol of the history and cultural identity of the Lone Star State, and it is indeed fitting to recognize a century's worth of contributions to protect this important animal; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 90th Texas Legislature hereby commemorate 100 years of conservation efforts to preserve the Texas longhorn and extend sincere appreciation to all those involved in this vital work; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for the Cattlemen's Texas Longhorn Registry as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.