By: Curry H.R. No. 27

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Proud residents of Waco are gathering in Austin on March 24, 2027, to celebrate Waco Day at the State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, Waco was founded in 1849 and played a central role in the development of the Lone Star State in the 1880s; it served as a center for cotton farming, a stopping point for cowboys on the Chisholm Trail, and a thriving transportation and marketing hub; and

WHEREAS, By the mid-1900s, Waco had grown into an important manufacturing center, and in recent decades, other sectors such as supply chain management, health care, and aerospace and defense have made significant contributions to the local economy; and

WHEREAS, Tourism is also a factor in the region's prosperity, and Waco has one of the highest hotel occupancy rates in the state; residents and visitors alike are drawn to such attractions as the Texas Sports Hall of Fame and the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum, as well as the scenic surroundings of Lake Waco and Cameron Park on the banks of the Brazos River; and

WHEREAS, Institutions of higher education have been a key element in Waco's success throughout its history; Baylor University has been a part of the city since 1887, and Texas State Technical College and McLennan Community College have further enhanced the town's reputation as a place of learning and innovation; and

WHEREAS, During the presidency of George W. Bush, Waco was home to the White House Press Center, which provided briefing and

office facilities for the press corps when President Bush was at the "Western White House," his ranch in Crawford, 20 miles west of Waco; and

WHEREAS, A fitting symbol of the City of Waco's forward-thinking attitude is the home of the Greater Waco Chamber of Commerce, which opened in June 2008 and was specifically designed to qualify for gold-level certification from the United States Green Building Council; the structure incorporates a range of innovative features to create an environmentally sensitive landmark that serves as a model for additional sustainable construction projects; and

WHEREAS, Even as they celebrate their unique heritage, the citizens of Waco are looking ahead to the opportunities of the future, and they may reflect with pride on their contributions to the story of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 90th Texas Legislature hereby recognize March 24, 2027, as Waco Day at the State Capitol and extend a warm welcome to the visiting delegation.