

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, February 27, 2007, is a day of celebration for
2 residents of Kilgore who have gathered at the State Capitol to share
3 their justifiable pride in their beloved hometown; and

4 WHEREAS, Present in the chamber on this day are the following
5 community leaders: Mike and Diana Coston, Jimmy and Sharon
6 Breedlove, Roland Velvin, Dr. Charles Whiteside, Kenneth and Norma
7 Plunk, Sammy and Cherisa York, Carolyn Johnston, Gene Keenon, Lisa
8 Denton, Donna and Ricky Beets, Jim and Ricki Oubre, Darryl
9 Stratton, Bill Gibbs, Bobby and Sherry Bustin, Carol Windham,
10 Harvey and Donna McClendon, Jimi and Tamera Mankins, Patty Ford,
11 Rodney Bell, Jeff Howell, Dr. Bill Holda, Carol Hinton, and Mike
12 Wilcox; and

13 WHEREAS, The history of their city can be traced to 1871, when
14 the site was first settled by soldier, lawyer, and judge
15 Constantine Buckley "Buck" Kilgore; the International-Great
16 Northern Railroad laid track through the area the following year,
17 and when Judge Kilgore sold the railroad his land the town of
18 Kilgore was born; and

19 WHEREAS, Kilgore was a quiet center for cotton farming until
20 1930, when Marion "Dad" Joiner's famous Daisy Bradford No. 3 well in
21 neighboring Rusk County resulted in a gusher; by 1931, the newly
22 discovered East Texas Oil Field was producing 1 million barrels of
23 oil a day, and almost overnight sleepy Kilgore became a boomtown; up
24 to 1,100 oil wells were drilled within the city limits of Kilgore

1 itself and on the city block known as the "World's Richest Acre"
2 stood the greatest concentration of oil derricks in the world; and

3 WHEREAS, From its role as one of the oil field's most
4 important production and distribution hubs, Kilgore's population
5 swelled from under 500 in 1930 to 12,000 by 1936; speculators,
6 roughnecks, lease hounds, and camp followers soon poured into town,
7 and by 1931 Governor Ross Sterling declared martial law and called
8 in the Texas Rangers to restore order; and

9 WHEREAS, Oil continues to be important to Kilgore today, with
10 the presence of such companies as Halliburton Energy Services,
11 Weatherford International, Inc., the Hanover Company, and Key
12 Energy Services; manufacturing is also a significant part of
13 Kilgore's diverse economy, with such employers as the Skeeter Boats
14 division of Yamaha Motor Company, the Southern Plastics Division of
15 Alcoa CSI, and General Dynamics/VertexRSI; and

16 WHEREAS, Kilgore is one of the most important educational and
17 cultural centers in East Texas; Kilgore College is not only a fine
18 two-year college, providing adult and online education, but is also
19 home to the Texas Shakespeare Festival, the East Texas Oil Museum,
20 and the famous Kilgore Rangerettes, the world's first women's
21 precision drill team; and

22 WHEREAS, Thanks to the efforts of the Kilgore Historical
23 Preservation Society, 60 replica oil derricks throughout the town
24 help remind residents and visitors of Kilgore's lively boomtown
25 history; decorated with Christmas lights and stars every year from
26 Thanksgiving until New Year's Day, the derricks helped the city
27 earn its title as the state's official "City of Stars"; and

1 WHEREAS, One of the most storied towns in the Lone Star State,
2 Kilgore celebrates its colorful past while looking forward to a
3 dynamic future, and it is indeed appropriate to take this
4 opportunity to honor it; now, therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the 80th Legislature of the State of Texas
6 hereby recognize February 27, 2007, as Kilgore Day at the State
7 Capitol and extend best wishes to the visiting delegation for an
8 enjoyable and informative stay in Austin.

Merritt

Craddick	Gattis	Miles
Allen	Geren	Miller
Alonzo	Giddings	Moreno
Anchia	Gonzales	Morrison
Anderson	Gonzalez Toureilles	Mowery
Aycock	Goolsby	Murphy
Bailey	Guillen	Naishtat
Berman	Haggerty	Noriega
Bohac	Hamilton	O'Day
Bolton	Hancock	Oliveira
Bonnen	Hardcastle	Olivo
Branch	Harless	Orr
Brown of Kaufman	Harper-Brown	Ortiz, Jr.
Brown of Brazos	Hartnett	Otto
Burnam	Heflin	Parker
Callegari	Hernandez	Patrick
Castro	Herrero	Paxton
Chavez	Hilderbran	Pena
Chisum	Hill	Phillips
Christian	Hochberg	Pickett
Cohen	Hodge	Pierson
Coleman	Homer	Pitts
Cook of Navarro	Hopson	Puente
Cook of Colorado	Howard of Fort Bend	Quintanilla
Corte	Howard of Travis	Raymond
Crabb	Hughes	Riddle
Creighton	Isett	Ritter
Crownover	Jackson	Rodriguez
Darby	Jones	Rose
Davis of Harris	Keffer	Smith of Tarrant
Davis of Dallas	King of Parker	Smith of Harris
Delisi	King of Taylor	Smithee
Deshotel	King of Zavala	Solomons
Driver	Kolkhorst	Strama
Dukes	Krusee	Straus
Dunnam	Kuempel	Swinford
Dutton	Latham	Talton
Eiland	Laubenberg	Taylor
Eissler	Leibowitz	Thompson
Elkins	Lucio III	Truitt
England	Macias	Turner
Escobar	Madden	Van Arsdale
Farabee	Mallory Caraway	Vaught
Farias	Martinez	Veasey
Farrar	Martinez Fischer	Villarreal
Flores	McCall	Vo
Flynn	McClendon	West
Frost	McReynolds	Woolley
Gallego	Menendez	Zedler
Garcia	Merritt	Zerwas

David Newkirk

President of the Senate

Jim Caddell

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 128 was adopted by the House on February 27, 2007, by a non-record vote.

Robert Haney
Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 128 was adopted by the Senate on February 27, 2007, by a viva-voce vote.

Patricia Spaw
Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: 12 MAR '07

Date

Rick Perry

Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
O'CLOCK

MAR 12 2007
Roger Almirante
Secretary of State