

ENGROSSED SENATE
CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 61

By: Kerr, Aldridge, Branan,
Brogdon, Cain, Capps,
Coates, Coffee, Corn,
Crutchfield, Dunlap,
Easley (Mary), Fair,
Fisher, Ford, Gumm,
Harrison, Helton, Hobson,
Horner, Johnson, Laster,
Laughlin, Lawler, Leftwich
(Debbe), Lerblance,
Littlefield, Maddox,
Milacek, Monson, Morgan,
Myers, Nichols, Price,
Pruitt, Rabon, Reynolds,
Riley, Robinson, Rozell,
Shurden, Smith, Snyder,
Taylor, Wilcoxson,
Wilkerson, Williams and
Williamson of the Senate

and

Braddock of the House

A Concurrent Resolution commending the Western Trail Historical Society; designating May 1, 2004, "Great Western Cattle Trail Appreciation Day"; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, in preserving and promoting the historical significance of the Great Western Cattle Trail from the Oklahoma-Texas state line to the Oklahoma-Kansas state line, the Western Trail Historical Society and friends have undertaken the ambitious task of marking the trail and showing the significance it played in the development of our great state; and

WHEREAS, the Trail, in essence, saved Texas. Since there were no railheads in Texas at that time, the only way to move cattle north and east to the railheads in Dodge City, Kansas, was to use the Great Western Cattle Trail. It served as the pathway for millions of Texas longhorn cattle that were driven from the cattle-rich lands in Texas to the railheads where they were shipped to markets in the north and east. The Trail changed its name several

times; it was called the Texas Trail, the Dodge City Trail, the Western Trail, and finally the Great Western Cattle Trail. As the railroad developed through Texas and Oklahoma, these cattle trails became unnecessary; and

WHEREAS, those Oklahomans who have such a deep appreciation for the Great Western Cattle Trail and want to see its historical value preserved will present to their good friends in Texas, who have the same affection for this period of time known as the "cattle drive era", a special gift of its first marker to enable the citizens of Texas to begin marking the trail; and

WHEREAS, the most fitting time and place for such a presentation is the setting for the annual Doan's picnic at Doan's Crossing on May 1, 2004, where millions of cattle crossed the Red River on their northward journey; and

WHEREAS, May 1, 2004, is a special day, a day of celebration of historians and citizens alike from the great states of Oklahoma and Texas as they unite their efforts to not only mark the Great Western Cattle Trail but to preserve and promote its significance in the pages of our history for generations to come.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 49TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature commends the Western Trail Historical Society, as well as its many friends, for their commitment and support of the Great Western Cattle Trail.

THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature designates May 1, 2004, "Great Western Cattle Trail Appreciation Day" in the State of Oklahoma.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Western Trail Historical Society, as well as the State of Texas.

Adopted by the Senate the 20th day of April, 2004.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

Adopted by the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____,
2004.

Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives