

By: _____

____.C.R. No. _____

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, For 100 years, scientists at the Blackland Research
2 and Extension Center have worked to ensure a safe and affordable
3 food supply, protect the environment, and invigorate the economy;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, The Blackland Experiment Station, Substation No. 5,
6 was authorized by the Texas Legislature in 1909 to conduct research
7 on cotton root rot and a variety of other soil and crop problems;
8 the Research and Extension Center today occupies a 542-acre site in
9 the south-central part of the Blackland Prairie region, on the
10 southeastern edge of Temple; it is one of 13 off-campus stations
11 affiliated with The Texas A&M University System as part of Texas
12 AgriLife Research, the state's premier research agency in
13 agriculture, natural resources, and the life sciences; and

14 WHEREAS, In 1931, the Blackland Research and Extension Center
15 began soil and water research in cooperation with the USDA Soil
16 Conservation Service; its early projects also included hybrid corn
17 breeding and research in cattle grazing and feeding; in recent
18 years, researchers have used weather data collected over many
19 decades to develop important guidelines for conservation and
20 improved crop performance, and studies of mechanization for major
21 crops, especially cotton, have provided information of great value
22 to farmers and agricultural agencies; and

23 WHEREAS, The Blackland Research and Extension Center shares
24 research facilities with the Grassland, Soil, and Water Research

1 Laboratory of the USDA/Agricultural Research Service, and their
2 scientists have cooperated closely for more than 80 years;
3 Blackland Research and Extension Center researchers also
4 collaborate extensively with their counterparts from the Natural
5 Resources Conservation Service and the Environmental Protection
6 Agency; the large national Conservation Effects Assessment Program
7 to quantify the environmental benefits of USDA conservation efforts
8 is among the key projects made possible by these relationships; and

9 WHEREAS, Responding to the needs of Texas residents, the
10 center is currently undertaking research related to healthy rivers
11 and streams, rangeland drought monitoring and management,
12 agriculture and natural resource risk management, and other crucial
13 issues; over the past century, the distinguished scientists and
14 dedicated staff of the Blackland Research and Extension Center have
15 been instrumental in improving land, water, and soil resources in
16 Central Texas, and they continue to enhance our knowledge of
17 agriculture and the environment while developing new technologies
18 that benefit countless people in our region and elsewhere; now,
19 therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the 81st Legislature of the State of Texas
21 hereby congratulate all those associated with the Blackland
22 Research and Extension Center on the occasion of its 100th
23 anniversary and extend to them best wishes for continued success in
24 their noteworthy endeavors; and, be it further

25 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
26 prepared for the Blackland Research and Extension Center as an
27 expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives and

1 Senate.