

1-1 By: Harris of Anderson (Senate Sponsor - Nichols) H.C.R. No. 105
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 10, 2023;
 1-3 May 11, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on
 1-4 Administration; May 19, 2023, reported favorably by the following
 1-5 vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0; May 19, 2023, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10			X	
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			

1-15 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-16 WHEREAS, Beloved for its profusion of blossoms, the dogwood
 1-17 tree provides one of the most spectacular highlights of springtime
 1-18 in the Lone Star State, and the city of Palestine has long been
 1-19 renowned for its abundance of these beautiful trees and for its
 1-20 famous Texas Dogwood Trails Celebration; and

1-21 WHEREAS, Dogwoods, which are native to the Palestine area,
 1-22 can grow to a height of 30 feet and feature a broad canopy of
 1-23 branches that burst into bloom in March and April in East Texas; the
 1-24 result is a dazzling floral display of majestic white and rosy pink
 1-25 petals; and

1-26 WHEREAS, The Texas Dogwood Trails Celebration traces its
 1-27 origins to 1938, when local residents Charles W. Woodbridge and
 1-28 Eugene Fish discussed their shared appreciation of the trees and
 1-29 hatched the idea of creating an event to showcase the many dogwoods
 1-30 in and around Palestine; their plan became a reality in 1939, when
 1-31 more than 20,000 people took part in the inaugural Dogwood Trails
 1-32 gathering; and

1-33 WHEREAS, In the early years, visitors had to drive rough and
 1-34 often muddy roads and trudge through densely wooded areas to get a
 1-35 glimpse of the loveliest blooms; to make the trees more accessible,
 1-36 organizers sought permission to use a plot of land north of the city
 1-37 owned by E. W. and H. R. Link; it contained several groves of
 1-38 dogwood trees, and with the help of volunteers, a formal trail
 1-39 system was completed there in 1941; it became a permanent
 1-40 attraction after M. A. Davey purchased the central portion of the
 1-41 tract and gifted it to Anderson County; the 254-acre Davey Dogwood
 1-42 Park was named in his honor and today features miles of roads and
 1-43 hike-and-bike trails; and

1-44 WHEREAS, Over the years, the dogwood trails have remained a
 1-45 source of great pride to the people of Palestine, who have
 1-46 contributed time and labor to maintain the trees and trails for the
 1-47 enjoyment of locals and visitors alike; their efforts have helped
 1-48 make their city an extremely popular springtime destination, with
 1-49 thousands of people flocking to Davey Dogwood Park and other area
 1-50 locations for the trails and celebration; and

1-51 WHEREAS, There is an intrinsic and undeniable joy in
 1-52 witnessing the delicate splendor of a dogwood tree in bloom, and
 1-53 through the efforts of several generations of citizens, the trails
 1-54 have become an essential part of the identity and character of
 1-55 Palestine; now, therefore, be it

1-56 RESOLVED, That the 88th Legislature of the State of Texas
 1-57 hereby designate Palestine as the official Dogwood Trails Capital
 1-58 of Texas; and, be it further

1-59 RESOLVED, That, in accordance with the provisions of Section
 1-60 391.003(e), Government Code, this designation remain in effect
 1-61 until the 10th anniversary of the date this resolution is finally

2-1 passed by the legislature.

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