

1-1 By: Hall S.C.R. No. 6
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed January 6, 2025; February 3, 2025,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Administration;
1-4 April 9, 2025, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0; April 9, 2025,
1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

1-8		Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-9	Hall	X			
1-10	Hinojosa of Nueces	X			
1-11	Cook	X			
1-12	Eckhardt	X			
1-13	Kolkhorst	X			
1-14	Menéndez	X			
1-15	Middleton	X			

1-16 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.C.R. No. 6 By: Hall

1-17 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-18 WHEREAS, For more than 90 years, Rockwall County has been a
1-19 sought-after destination for brides- and grooms-to-be, and its
1-20 popularity as a marriage location is known throughout the Lone Star
1-21 State; and

1-22 WHEREAS, Couples have flocked to Rockwall County to tie the
1-23 knot since the early decades of the 20th century, and the area
1-24 gained further acclaim during the 1940s and 1950s, when the county
1-25 took a unique approach to administrating marriages; a night
1-26 watchman at the courthouse, Gene Payne, filled in as the deputy
1-27 county clerk, which allowed marriage licenses to be issued at all
1-28 hours; in addition, a local doctor kept his office open late to
1-29 provide the blood tests that were required before a license could be
1-30 issued; the popularity of Rockwall County as a place to say "I do"
1-31 was such that justice of the peace Mildred Barnes, one of only a few
1-32 women in the state to serve in that role at the time, officiated the
1-33 weddings of more than 6,000 couples from 1952 to 1957; and

1-34 WHEREAS, The practice of issuing marriage licenses around the
1-35 clock ended in the 1950s, when the county was required by law to
1-36 provide this service during regular business hours; nevertheless,
1-37 the county has remained a top choice for prospective newlyweds
1-38 drawn by the uncommon beauty and elegance of its marriage
1-39 certificates, which have long been among the most coveted in the
1-40 state; the county is further admired for its wide selection of
1-41 wedding venues that suit a variety of tastes and styles, ranging
1-42 from luxurious manors to scenic gardens and pastoral ranch venues;
1-43 and

1-44 WHEREAS, Rockwall County has long served as the setting where
1-45 couples have shared their vows and embarked upon a momentous
1-46 journey together, and it is indeed fitting that the county be
1-47 formally recognized for its special connection to the institution
1-48 of marriage, both historically and in the present day; now,
1-49 therefore, be it

1-50 RESOLVED, That the 89th Legislature of the State of Texas
1-51 hereby designate Rockwall County as the official Marriage Capital
1-52 of Texas; and, be it further

1-53 RESOLVED, That, in accordance with the provisions of
1-54 Section 391.003(e), Government Code, this designation remain in
1-55 effect until the 10th anniversary of the date this resolution is
1-56 finally passed by the legislature.

1-57 * * * * *