WHEREAS, Residents of Coleman County celebrated the sesquicentennial of the establishment of their county throughout 2008; and

WHEREAS, Situated in west central Texas, Coleman County traces its origins to 1856, when the U.S. Army built Camp Colorado; the frontier garrison served as the first county seat for Coleman County, which was formed on February 1, 1858, and named after Robert M. Coleman, a signer of the Texas Declaration of Independence and an aide-de-camp to General Sam Houston at the Battle of San Jacinto; and

WHEREAS, Prominent citizens organized a county government in 1875 and the next year chose a more central site for the county seat, located close to the bustling commerce of the Western Trail; the survey of the new town of Coleman was barely complete before doctors, lawyers, merchants, ranchers, and others were clamoring to buy lots; agriculture flourished after 1900, though the county later struggled with drought, and the city of Coleman was forced to import water; natural gas and oil were discovered before 1920, and the industries grew, while farming was hit hard by the Great Depression; and

WHEREAS, Coleman County's economy today includes limestone, high-grade glass sand, and the manufacturing of products ranging from saddles to recreational vehicles; moreover, agribusiness, oil, natural gas, and ranching remain important, and Coleman ranks as the fourth-largest wool-producing county in Texas; tourism thrives in the region as well, with hunters drawn to the area by bountiful deer, turkey, ducks, quail, and dove; six major lakes provide excellent fishing and recreation; and

WHEREAS, Visitors to Coleman County further enjoy exploring the ruins of Camp Colorado, the ghost town of Trickham, and a pioneer cabin museum at the foot of Santa Anna Mountain; numerous markers commemorate a fascinating history that includes one of the first female sheriffs in the United States, Emma Susan Daugherty Banister, who was appointed to complete her husband's term on his death in August 1918; and

WHEREAS, Popular annual events include a PRCA rodeo, one of the nation's largest county livestock shows, Santa Anna Puntier Days, and the Fiesta de la Paloma and dove cook-off; the county began observance of its 150th anniversary on February 1, 2008, when the post office issued a commemorative cancellation stamp; and

WHEREAS, In honoring Coleman County's first 150 years, citizens pay tribute to the exceptional Texans who came before them and share their pride in a home that offers natural beauty and a neighborly spirit; now, therefore, be it
H.R. No. 35

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas Legislature hereby commemorate the sesquicentennial of Coleman County and extend to its residents best wishes for the future.

Hilderbran
H.R. No. 35

Joe Straus
Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 35 was adopted by the House on February 26, 2009, by a non-record vote.

Robert Haney
Chief Clerk of the House

Harvey Hilderbrand
State Representative
District 53
Straus
Allen
Alonzo
Alvarado
Anchia
Anderson
Aycock
Berman
Bohac
Bolton
Bonnens
Branch
Brown of Kaufman
Brown of Brazos
Burnam
Button
Callegari
Castro
Chavez
Chisum
Christian
Cohen
Coleman
Cook
Cortez
Crabb
Craddick
Creighton
Crowover
Darby
Davis of Harris
Davis of Dallas
Deshotel
Driver
Dukes
Dunnam
Dutton
Edwards
Eiland
Eissler
Elkins
England
Farabee
Farias
Farrar
Fletcher
Flores
Flynn
Frost
Gallego
Gattis
Geren
Giddings
Gonzales
Gonzalez Tourelles
Guillen
Gutierrez
Hamilton
Hancock
Hardcastle
Harless
Harper-Brown
Hartnett
Heflin
Hernandez
Herrero
Hilderbran
Hochberg
Hodge
Homer
Hopson
Howard of Fort Bend
Howard of Travis
Hughes
Hunter
Isett
Jackson
Jones
Keffer
Kent
King of Parker
King of Taylor
King of Zavala
Kleinschmidt
Kolbhorst
Kuempel
Laubenberg
Legler
Leibowitz
Lewis
Lucio III
Madden
Maldonado
Mallory Caraway
Marquez
Martinez
Martinez Fischer
McCall
McClendon
McReynolds
Menendez
Merritt
Miklos
Miller of Comal
Miller of Erath
Moody
Morrison
Naishat
Oliveira
Olivo
Orr
Ortiz, Jr.
Otto
Parker
Patrick
Paxton
Peña
Phillips
Pickett
Pierson
Pitts
Quintanilla
Raymond
Riddle
Rios Ybarra
Ritter
Rodriguez
Rose
Sheffield
Shelton
Smith of Tarrant
Smith of Harris
Smithee
Solomons
Strama
Swinford
Taylor
Thibaut
Thompson
Tritt
Turner of Tarrant
Turner of Harris
Vaught
Veasey
Villarreal
Vo
Walle
Weber
Woolley
Zerwas