



## Kansas House Resolution Honoring Western Trail Anniversary

WHEREAS, The Western Trail is celebrating its 150th anniversary after playing a vital role in the Old West era, ultimately spanning nine states and connecting Mexico and Canada through Kansas; and

WHEREAS, The Western Trail was initially developed in 1874 by stockmen who pioneered a route through Western Kansas so as to bring Texas Longhorns north to provide breeding stock for ranchers and to supply beef for Native American tribes in the northern states; and

WHEREAS, The Western Trail came through western Kansas and continued to Nebraska and points north, with five routes reaching the Kansas Counties of Clark, Ford, Ellis, Hodgeman, Finney, Lane, Gove, Sheridan, Thomas, Scott, Logan, Wallace, Sherman, Cheyenne, Hitchcock, Ness, Trego, Decatur, and Rawlins, including stops in such notable places as Dodge City, Ellis/Hays, and Fort Wallace; and

WHEREAS, The Western Trail brought longhorn cattle to the Kansas plains, ultimately providing a foundation for the modern cattle production and processing industry of today; and

WHEREAS, The Western Trail was an economic lifeline for Kansas, carrying more longhorns for a longer distance for more years than any other cattle trail; and

WHEREAS, The Western Trail was the site of cattle drives which were part of the greatest overland migration of domestic livestock in history; which, along with the Chisholm Trail and Santa Fe Trail, helped popularize many iconic images of the Old West and enhanced the Kansas economy; Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas: That we commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Western Cattle Trail; and Be it further resolved: That we praise the countless benefits that resulted from the Western Trail's impact on Kansas.



February 21, 2024