

# DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE,



DELEGATES OF THE PEOPLE OF TEXAS,  
IN GENERAL CONVENTION,  
AT THE TOWN OF WASHINGTON,

ON THE SECOND DAY OF MARCH, 1836.

## The Sons of the Republic of Texas Cordially Invites You to the 2020 Texas Independence Day

When a government... the lives, liberty and... ple, from whom its legitimate powers are derived, and for the advancement of whose happiness it was instituted, and so far from being a guarantee for the enjoyment of these inestimable and inalienable rights, become an instrument in the hands of evil rulers... their oppression. When the Federal Republican Constitution of their country, which they have sworn to support, no longer has...

of making. A steady... of the world, a... arduous but unavoidable step now taken, of severing our political connection with the Mexican people... The Mexican government, by its colonization laws, invited and induced the Anglo-American population of Texas to colonize its wilderness under the... been habituated in the land of their birth, the United States of America.

It has failed to establish any public system of education... science, that unless a people are educated and enlightened, it is idle to expect the continuance of civil liberty, or the capacity for self government... upon the most sacred rights of the citizens, and rendering the military superior to the civil power.

It has, through its emissaries, incited the merciless savage, with the tomahawk and knife, to massacre the inhabitants of our defenceless frontiers.

It hath been, during the whole time of our connection with it, the contemptible sport and victims of successive military revolutions, and hath continually exhibited

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When, in consequence of such acts of malfeasance and abdication on the part of the government, anarchy prevails, and civil society is dissolved into its original elements. In such a crisis, the first law of nature, the right of self-preservation, the inherent and inalienable rights of the people to appeal to first principles, and take their political affairs into their own hands in extreme cases, enjoins it as a right towards themselves, and a sacred obligation to posterity, to abolish such governments, and create another in their stead, calculated to rescue them from impending dangers, and to secure their future welfare and happiness.

In this expectation they have been cruelly disappointed, inasmuch as the Mexican nation has acquiesced in the... General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, who having overturned the constitution of his country, has... of all tyranny, the combined despotisms of the sword and the priesthood.

It has made piratical attacks upon our commerce, by commissioning foreign desperadoes, and authorizing them to seize and convey the property of our citizens to far distant ports for confiscation. It denies us the right of worshipping the Almighty according to the dictates of our own conscience, by the support of a national religion, calculated to promote the temporal interest of its human functionaries, rather than the glory of the arms, which are essential to our defence, the rightful property of freemen, and formidable only to tyrannical governments.

The necessity of self-preservation, therefore, now decrees our eternal political separation.

We, therefore, the delegates with plenary powers of the people of Texas, in solemn convention assembled, appealing to a candid world for the necessities of our condition, do hereby resolve and DECLARE, that our political connection with the Mexican nation has forever ended, and that the people of Texas do now constitute a FREE, SOVEREIGN, and

INDEPENDENT REPUBLIC, and are furnished with all the rights and attributes which properly belong to independent nations; and, conscious of the rectitude of our intentions, we fearlessly and confidently commit the issue to the decision of the Supreme arbiter of the destinies of nations.

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Nations, as well as individuals, are amenable for their acts to the public opinion

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C. B. STEWART, } Austin.  
THOMAS BARNETT, }  
JAS. COLLINGSWORTH, }  
EDWIN WALLER, } Brazoria.  
ASA BRIGHAM, }  
J. S. D. BYROM, }  
FRANCISCO RUIZ, } Bejar.  
ANTONIO NAVARRO, }  
JOSE B. BAGGETT, }  
WILLIAM D. LACY, } Colorado.  
WILLIAM MINNER, }  
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W. CLARK, JR., }

JOHN FISHER, } Gonzales.  
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WILLIAM M... }  
L. DE ZARZA, }  
STEPH. H. EVERETT, } Jasper.  
GEORGE W. SMITH, } Jackson.  
ELIJAH STAPP, }  
CLARIBORN WEST, } Jefferson.  
WILLIAM B. SCATES, }  
M. B. MENARD, } Liberty.  
A. B. HAZEN, }  
BAILEY HARDON, } Mar...  
RICHARD ELLIS, President

J. W. BENSON, } Mina.  
TERRY J. GORLEY, }  
THOMAS J. ROWE, } Nacogdoches.  
CH. S. TAYLOR, }  
JOHN S. ROBERTS, }  
ROBERT HAMILTON, }  
COLLIN MCKINNEY, } Red River.  
AAR. H. LATTIMER, }  
STEPH. W. BLOUNT, } San Augustin.

SID. O. PENNINGTON, } Shelby.  
W. CARL CRAWFORD, }  
JAMES POWER, }  
DAVID THOMAS, } Refugio.  
ERNEST COMRAD, }  
JOHN TURNER, } San Patricio.  
B. BRIGGS GOODRICH, }  
G. W. BARNETT, }  
JAMES G. SEIBER, }  
JOSE GONZA, }  
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### Washington, Texas

[Link to Map](#)

Ceremony organized and hosted by  
The Sons of the Republic of Texas

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The Washington on the Brazos State Historic Site, THC  
The Descendants of the Signers of the Texas Declaration of Independence

Contact: Michael D. Wilson / 281-660-6640 / 832-624-8491 / m.d.wilson@exxonmobil.com