

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the Ann W. Richards Congress Avenue Bridge in downtown Austin is the home of the largest urban bat colony in the world; and

WHEREAS, more than 125,000 people view the evening flight of the bats each year, generating more than \$12 million in tourism revenue; and

WHEREAS, Austin's colony of Mexican Free-tailed bats is an integral part of the character and culture of our city, helping to keep Austin weird;

WHEREAS, on April 8, 2010, the Austin City Council passed Resolution No. 20100408-028 making the Mexican Free-Tailed Bat the Official Animal of Austin, and to create “Night of the Bat”, an annual City co-sponsored event to celebrate Austin’s bats and promote bat conservation;

WHEREAS, an estimated 5,000 Austin residents attended the inaugural “Night of the Bat” on June 6, 2010;

WHEREAS, the inaugural “Night of the Bat” was co-sponsored by the City of Austin, the Austin Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Downtown Austin Alliance, the Paramount Theatre, H-E-B, Run-Tex, The Town Lake Radisson, the Austin Hyatt Regency, and Bat Conservation International; and

WHEREAS, the Bat Fest event has also been held each year in celebration of the bat, and wishes to be combined with “Night of the Bat”;

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The City Council amends Resolution No. 20100408-028, changing the annual “Night of the Bat” from the first Sunday in June to the last Saturday in August; and

The City Council supports a concession agreement with the Bat Fest producers for event management.

ADOPTED: _____, 2011 **ATTEST:** _____
Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk