

DECLARATION REQUESTING THAT THE NAME OF THE OLD SPANISH TRAIL BE NOT
DISTURBED IN TEXAS BUT SUPPORTED AND CONTINUED IN THE INTEREST
OF THE GREAT HIGHWAY PROJECT RECOGNIZED AND ESTABLISHED.
FROM ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA TO SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA.

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The people of Sonora and of Sutton County have for six years been actively interested in and helping develop the Old Spanish Trail from Florida to California. In 1919 one hundred and thirty-five West Texans met at San Antonio with delegates from the East and these Texans pledged their efforts to put a road across ~~West Texas~~. Not even a good trail existed at that time. Sutton County voted \$300,000. In these six years, as the outcome of that San Antonio meeting and the subsequent efforts, we have seen all West Texas opened.

The Old Spanish Trail has been under development as a national highway for ten years and as such has been recognized by the states through which it passes and by the United States as the basic trunkline of the South crossing the continent from St. Augustine, Florida to San Diego, California.

A recent report of the Old Spanish Trail shows the following extensive work that has been done. They have published 40,000 service and general maps; 10,000 four-color lithograph wall maps; 50,000 miscellaneous leaflets and booklets; 20,000 travelogs and now has a wealth of material ready for a Texas Travelog of 20,000 copies; magazine and feature articles have reached a circulation of over 4,000,000; over 2000 miles of roads have been marked and new marking is necessary; zero milestones have been dedicated by presidents and governors; OST field men have traveled over 50,000 miles in this work---in the early days they wallowed in mud and mire working out courses of the highway across the continent; now the women are organizing and beautifying the highway and they too have made great contributions to the service.

It is reported the State Highway Commission has voted or announced that the section of this highway across Texas should be named the "Jefferson Davis Memorial Highway" thus aiming at the destruction of ten years work by Texas citizens and involving Texans in bad faith with sister states,

Therefore we request the State Highway Commission to publicly declare the Old Spanish Trail name across Texas shall remain as planned and that the Highway Department will continue cooperation with sister states to build a nationally known trunkline over this route across the continent, and to cooperate in every possible way to establish the Old Spanish Trail as a great southern trunkline, and to refuse recognition to any group or interest seeking to fasten other names upon the highway and thus cause confusion to travelers and discouragement to the men and women who have worked so long to create the Old Spanish Trail as the connecting artery between Florida and California.