

By: Lozano

H.R. No. 119

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Residents of Jim Wells County are gathering at the  
2 State Capitol on February 14, 2023; and

3 WHEREAS, A landscape of sweeping grasslands and wide  
4 horizons, the county's early inhabitants enjoyed the region's mild  
5 winters and abundant game; after the first European settlement in  
6 1754, at Penitas Creek, Mexican ranchers developed land grants into  
7 sheep and cattle ranches; in 1848 the region became part of the  
8 State of Texas, and it was formally incorporated as a county in 1911  
9 and named after the prominent developer and attorney James B. Wells  
10 Jr.; and

11 WHEREAS, With the arrival of the railroad in the 1870s, Alice  
12 became the most important livestock shipment junction in South  
13 Texas, and ranching has remained a mainstay of the county's economy  
14 ever since; cotton and sorghum are key crops, as are hay, corn, and  
15 wheat; since the discovery of oil in the area in 1931, the county  
16 has become one of the state's leaders in oil production; and

17 WHEREAS, Notable communities in Jim Wells County include  
18 Orange Grove, Ben Bolt-Palito Blanco, Premont, Sandia, and La  
19 Gloria; the county seat, Alice is a center for health care, with an  
20 outstanding medical facility, the CHRISTUS Spohn Hospital Alice;  
21 the Tejano R.O.O.T.S. Hall of Fame in Alice honors Tejano culture  
22 and recognizes the region as the birthplace of this popular musical  
23 genre; the area's distinctive history is showcased at the South  
24 Texas Museum, housed in the 1940s McGill Brothers Building; and

1           WHEREAS, Celebrating their vibrant heritage as they embrace  
2 the opportunities of the future, the citizens of Jim Wells County  
3 are building on a long tradition of industry, achievement, and  
4 public spirit, and they are indeed deserving of special  
5 recognition; now, therefore, be it

6           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas  
7 Legislature hereby recognize February 14, 2023, as Jim Wells County  
8 Day at the State Capitol and extend a warm welcome to the visiting  
9 delegation.