

By: Lozano

H.R. No. 199

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Residents of San Patricio County are gathering in
2 Austin on March 23, 2023, to celebrate San Patricio County Day at
3 the State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, Situated on the broad coastal plain along the Gulf
5 of Mexico, this region was originally inhabited by the Karankawa
6 Indians; in 1829, 200 Irish families from New York formed a colony
7 under a contract with the government of Mexico and founded the town
8 of San Patricio de Hibernia, in honor of Saint Patrick, the patron
9 saint of Ireland; the town was the site of a battle during the Texas
10 Revolution in 1836, and later that same year, San Patricio County
11 was created by the new Republic of Texas; and

12 WHEREAS, By 1860, San Patricio County was occupied by
13 ranchers and farmers, and during the Civil War, a Confederate fort
14 was built at Aransas Pass to deal with smugglers, rustlers, and
15 Federal raiders; the county's economy was boosted in 1885 when the
16 San Antonio and Aransas Pass Railway was extended to Aransas
17 Harbor; the town of Sinton, named after an Ohio banker who had
18 invested in the area's development, was designated as the county
19 seat in 1893; and

20 WHEREAS, Oil and gas were discovered in the county in the
21 early 20th century, and the petroleum industry and agriculture
22 continue to be the foundation of the economy; cotton, sorghum, and
23 cattle are all major products, along with shrimp from the
24 commercial fisheries along the coast; the completion of a major

1 dredging and expansion project at the La Quinta Ship Channel has
2 increased opportunities for strategic international business
3 partnerships, and in recent years, foreign and domestic companies
4 have invested billions of dollars in the county's industrial
5 sector; and

6 WHEREAS, Today, the people of San Patricio County enjoy a
7 relaxed rural lifestyle while taking advantage of their proximity
8 to the city of Corpus Christi; hunters, birders, kayakers,
9 snorkelers, and devotees of sport fishing travel to the county for
10 its many opportunities for recreation; the county is also home to
11 the Welder Wildlife Refuge, one of the largest privately endowed
12 refuges in the world; and

13 WHEREAS, Celebrating their colorful past as they work to
14 build an even brighter future, those Texans who call San Patricio
15 County home may indeed take great pride in the important role their
16 unique region plays in the story of the Lone Star State; now,
17 therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
19 Legislature hereby recognize March 23, 2023, as San Patricio County
20 Day at the State Capitol and extend a warm welcome to the visiting
21 delegation.