

By: LaMantia

S.R. No. 140

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Bee County are gathering at the
2 State Capitol to celebrate Bee County Day on February 8, 2023; and

3 WHEREAS, Artifacts indicate that the Bee County area was
4 originally inhabited by humans 6,000 to 10,000 years ago; the first
5 permanent European settlers arrived in the early 1800s, and later,
6 11 area landowners were among the signers of the Texas Declaration
7 of Independence; and

8 WHEREAS, On January 25, 1858, the county was officially
9 organized and was named for Barnard E. Bee Sr., an accomplished
10 statesman from South Carolina who later served as secretary of war
11 under Sam Houston; and

12 WHEREAS, Located in the South Texas Plains vegetation region,
13 Bee County covers 866 square miles that gently slope toward the Gulf
14 of Mexico; with the area's open expanses of grasslands, its economy
15 is dominated by farming and ranching, along with its thriving oil
16 and gas operations and agribusiness; Beeville, the county seat, has
17 revitalized its downtown district and has been recognized as a
18 Texas Main Street City by the Texas Historical Commission, and
19 other towns in the county include Skidmore, Blue Berry Hill,
20 Pettus, Tuleta, Tynan, Pawnee, Normanna, and Mineral; and

21 WHEREAS, Coastal Bend College-Beeville offers occupational
22 as well as academic classes for its students, and it has the oldest
23 academic educational glassblowing facility in the state; art
24 enthusiasts may delight in the exhibits of the Beeville Art Museum,

1 which is funded by the Joe Barnhart Foundation and housed in the
2 historic Esther Barnhart House; in addition, visitors come from all
3 across Texas to celebrate the state's rich traditions at Western
4 Week, one of the county's largest and longest-running festivals;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Bee County is host to many cultural and historical
7 attractions that make it an inviting place to live and an
8 interesting area to visit, and its residents may take great pride in
9 their vibrant heritage and myriad contributions as they look toward
10 a bright and prosperous future; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 88th Texas Legislature
12 hereby recognize February 8, 2023, as Bee County Day at the State
13 Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation sincere best wishes
14 for a memorable stay in Austin.