

By: Blanco

S.R. No. 502

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, San Elizario has been named Best Historic Small Town
2 in the *USA Today* 2023 Readers' Choice Awards; and

3 WHEREAS, The community traces its roots to 1598, when Spanish
4 explorer Juan de Oñate reached the Rio Grande near the present-day
5 site of the city; the El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro trade route
6 between Mexico City and Santa Fe passed through the area, and a
7 settlement named Hacienda de los Tiburcios was founded before 1760;
8 in 1789, a Spanish presidio was established, and the town that grew
9 up around it became known as San Elizario; formerly part of the
10 Mexican state of Chihuahua, the town became part of Texas following
11 the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848; and

12 WHEREAS, Today, San Elizario is a popular stop on the El Paso
13 Mission Trail and is home to such attractions as the San Elizario
14 Presidio Chapel, the Old El Paso County Jail Museum, and Los
15 Portales Casa Garcia museum; the widespread use of adobe
16 construction and the territorial and pueblo revival architecture
17 found throughout the town help to preserve its historical
18 aesthetic; in addition, San Elizario features a number of galleries
19 displaying the work of local artists, and the city holds special
20 events such as the Art Market and the Billy the Kid Festival that
21 feature gunfighting reenactments, live music, and other
22 entertainment; and

23 WHEREAS, With its rich history and characteristic charm, San
24 Elizario is a delight for residents and visitors alike, and the town

1 is indeed deserving of this notable accolade; now, therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 88th Texas Legislature
3 hereby congratulate San Elizario on being named Best Historic Small
4 Town in the *USA Today* 2023 Readers' Choice Awards and commend all
5 those who help to maintain the city's distinctive appeal; and, be it
6 further

7 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
8 prepared for the City of San Elizario as an expression of high
9 regard by the Texas Senate.