

By: Pena

H.R. No. 110

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Edwards Abstract and Title Company of Hidalgo
2 County, the oldest title company in the Rio Grande Valley, is
3 celebrating its 77th anniversary in 2003; and

4 WHEREAS, The company traces its roots to 1880, when Judge
5 James H. Edwards entered the abstract business in Starr County;
6 over the ensuing years, Judge Edwards was instrumental in clearing
7 many of the land titles in Starr and Hidalgo counties, gleaning
8 information from early settlers and old records and often traveling
9 to Mexico to locate missing heirs to Spanish land grants; a lawyer
10 and, at various times, county judge of Hidalgo County and state
11 representative, Judge Edwards operated an abstract business in
12 Edinburg with his wife until his death in 1925; and

13 WHEREAS, In 1926, Edwards Abstract and Title Company was
14 incorporated by the judge's widow, L. S. Edwards, and sons James and
15 Cecil Edwards; today, this venerable company continues to be based
16 in downtown Edinburg, while four branch offices have been
17 established to better serve the firm's extensive clientele;
18 satellite offices include those in McAllen, opened in 1987,
19 Weslaco, opened in 1996, and Mission and Sharyland Plantation, both
20 opened in 2001; and

21 WHEREAS, Edwards Abstract and Title Company expanded further
22 in 2002 when the law firm of Lewis, Monroe & Pena was established to
23 serve as counsel to the company; principals in the new firm are
24 Byron Jay Lewis, who has served as president of Edwards Abstract and

1 Title Company since 2000, Alan D. Monroe, and Mark S. Pena;
2 Mr. Lewis and Mr. Monroe are both board certified in commercial and
3 residential real estate law, and Mr. Pena is a certified mediator;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, For more than three-quarters of a century, Edwards
6 Abstract and Title Company has handled a significant volume of the
7 commercial and residential transactions in Hidalgo County, and the
8 nearly 70 individuals who operate the title company and its
9 associated law firm can take pride in the outstanding contribution
10 they are making to the development of the Lower Rio Grande Valley;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Representative Aaron Peña has justly recognized
13 Edwards Abstract and Title Company by passing this honorary
14 resolution in its behalf during the 1st Called Session of the 78th
15 Legislative Session; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
17 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby congratulate all those
18 associated with Edwards Abstract and Title Company on the occasion
19 of its 77th anniversary and extend to them sincere best wishes for
20 continued success.