

By: Pena

H.R. No. 414

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, March 2, 2003, marks the 76th anniversary of the  
2 founding of Elsa, in Hidalgo County, and this event affords an ideal  
3 opportunity to recognize the contributions of this city's residents  
4 to the state's richly woven tapestry; and

5           WHEREAS, Elsa is situated on what was once part of the Llano  
6 Grande land grant, issued by Spanish authorities to Juan José  
7 Ynojosa de Ballí in 1790; the surrounding area was settled before  
8 1800 by ranchers who introduced cattle and sheep and a variety of  
9 crops; and

10           WHEREAS, In the early 1900s, Anglo-Americans began making  
11 their homes in the vicinity, lured by the possibilities for  
12 developing truck farms; at one time, the Delta area was home to some  
13 of the largest canning and packaging companies anywhere in the  
14 world; today, agriculture continues to constitute a major source of  
15 the county's economy, and Hidalgo County ranks first in the state in  
16 the market value of its crops; and

17           WHEREAS, The community of Elsa was laid out beside the Texas  
18 and New Orleans Railroad in 1927 and named for Elsie George, wife of  
19 a local landowner; at its incorporation in 1940, Elsa's population  
20 numbered just over 1,000, and today more than 5,500 Texans call it  
21 home; and

22           WHEREAS, Deeply committed to their youth and to civic  
23 participation, residents of Elsa helped in 1997 to create the Llano  
24 Grande Center for Research and Development; a nonprofit

1 organization based in Elsa, the center works to nurture the talents  
2 and leadership potential of area students and to strengthen the  
3 community fabric; among the many successes of which it can boast is  
4 a college preparation and placement program, begun informally  
5 several years earlier, that saw more than 51 students from  
6 Edcouch-Elsa High School admitted to Ivy League universities  
7 between 1993 and 2001; and

8 WHEREAS, The residents of Elsa honor their history and are  
9 building a forward-looking community that draws on the strengths of  
10 all its people; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas  
12 Legislature hereby recognize March 2, 2003, as the 76th anniversary  
13 of the city of Elsa and extend best wishes to all its residents for a  
14 bright and prosperous future.