

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Willacy County was formed in 1911 from Cameron and
2 Hidalgo counties, though its history dates back to the days of the
3 Coahuiltecan Indians; and

4 WHEREAS, Since the early 1930s, farming has dominated the
5 economy, which relies on the successful harvest of such crops as
6 oranges and Bermuda onions; oranges were brought to the area by a
7 ranchman named Cantú around 1886 from Montemorelos, Mexico, and
8 Bermuda onions were brought to the area by Milt White in 1912; the
9 crop became a major agricultural product of the area and was
10 celebrated at an annual onion festival that bore the slogan "The
11 Breath of a Nation"; and

12 WHEREAS, In 1940, the abundance of crops gave rise to a
13 migrant farm labor camp near Raymondville, and seasonal farm work
14 became an important occupation for the humble families in the
15 district and in nearby communities; and

16 WHEREAS, Today the major towns of Willacy County include
17 Lyford, Raymondville, Sebastian, San Perlita, and Port Mansfield;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, Willacy County is home to many dedicated elected
20 officials, public employees, and community leaders, who over the
21 years have carried out their public service with distinction that
22 is too seldom acknowledged; now, therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
24 Legislature hereby honor the elected officials, public employees,

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1 community leaders, and citizens of Willacy County for their many
2 outstanding contributions to Texas and the United States of
3 America.

Escobar

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1919 was adopted by the House on June 2, 2003, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House