

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 243

WHEREAS, Proud citizens of Corpus Christi are visiting the State Capitol on February 26, 2003, to celebrate the notable history and bright future of this South Texas city; and

WHEREAS, Corpus Christi traces its roots to a trading post established in 1839 on the western shore of Corpus Christi Bay; in 1846, the settlement that had grown up around the post became the county seat of the newly created Nueces County; and

WHEREAS, The city's growth was propelled in the 1870s by a flourishing wool trade, a booming cattle industry, and the arrival of the railroad; by 1914 Corpus Christi had four railroads, which promoted the area extensively to farmers and tourists; and

WHEREAS, Development was further boosted by the opening of a deepwater port in 1926 and by the discovery of oil in the county in 1930; the port of Corpus Christi is now the fifth largest in the nation in terms of tonnage, and the petroleum and natural gas industries remain an important pillar of the city's economy; another significant stimulus derives from the city's location within the new I-69 corridor, which links the United States with its two largest trading partners, Canada and Mexico; and

WHEREAS, The United States military maintains several nearby facilities-Naval Station Ingleside and Naval Air Station Corpus Christi; in addition to serving as a training field for pilots, the latter base is also home to the Coast Guard Air Station and the Corpus Christi Army Depot; and

WHEREAS, Two institutions of higher learning, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and Del Mar College, together enroll almost 10,000 students; other outstanding cultural and educational resources include the Art Museum of South Texas, Corpus Christi Botanical Gardens, Texas State Aquarium, and Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History; visitors can also tour the USS *Lexington*, a record-holding World War II aircraft carrier, and replicas of the *Niña*, *Pinta*, and *Santa María*; and

WHEREAS, A favored destination for outdoors enthusiasts, the Sparkling City by the Sea is close to Mustang Island State Park and Padre Island National Seashore, whose 68-mile beach constitutes the longest undeveloped shoreline in the country; and

WHEREAS, The citizens of Corpus Christi are continuing to build a dynamic, forward-looking community, one that combines the friendliness of a small town with the amenities of a modern city, and it is indeed a pleasure to recognize their achievements and public spirit; now, therefore, be it

S.R. No. 243

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas,
78th Legislature, hereby recognize February 26, 2003, as
Corpus Christi Day at the State Capitol and extend to all those
visiting today sincere best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable
visit.

Hinojosa

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the
above Resolution was adopted by
the Senate on February 26, 2003.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate