

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 265

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to join the proud citizens of Victoria in celebrating Victoria Day at the State Capitol on Wednesday, March 5, 2003; and

WHEREAS, The City of Victoria and Victoria County have a proud history; one of the highlights of its distinctive and colorful story occurred in 1824 when the Republic of Mexico approved Don Martin DeLeon's request for a large land grant on the lower Guadalupe River; and

WHEREAS, A highly respected Mexican citizen, Don Martin DeLeon received permission to establish the town of Nuestra Senora de Guadalupe de Jesus Victoria with 41 families; and

WHEREAS, The Main Street of the town was known then as La Calle de los Diez Amigos, or the street of the 10 friends, showing Don DeLeon's friendship with the principal citizens of the new town; and

WHEREAS, After the 1836 revolution, the name of the town became Victoria, and the town was incorporated under the Republic of Texas in 1839; the first property taxes were assessed in 1843; and

WHEREAS, Ranching was the first major enterprise in the area, and it brought in major capital needed for development; commercial ventures became successful, and by 1917, paved streets were becoming common; and

WHEREAS, By the end of World War II, Victoria had become one of the fastest-growing cities in Texas; and

WHEREAS, The city has a symphony orchestra, a fine arts association, museums, libraries, and the National Zoo of Texas, which is home to more than 200 native Texas animals and plants; and

WHEREAS, Three major highways, railroads, and commercial airlines make Victoria easily accessible to major businesses; it is also located on a barge canal which is connected to the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway; as the Victoria County seat, the city serves as the commercial center of this thriving area; and

WHEREAS, Victoria is home to excellent public schools, a number of major employers, a university, and a community college; the city offers first-rate medical care, and it is an inviting city with an expanding economy; and

WHEREAS, Two of the city's qualities that appeal to all ages are big-city convenience and small-town friendliness; Victoria is an excellent town in which to live, work, and raise a family; and

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WHEREAS, It is indeed a pleasure and a privilege for the Texas Senate to honor this outstanding city and its fine citizens on the occasion of Victoria Day at the State Capitol; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby express appreciation to the citizens of Victoria for their many contributions to our state; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the city and county and its citizenry as a memento of this momentous day.

Armbrister

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 5, 2003.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate