

By: Pena

H.R. No. 246

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Texas House of Representatives is pleased to  
2 join with a group of citizens from Edinburg in celebrating Edinburg  
3 Day at the State Capitol on this day, February 10, 2005; and

4 WHEREAS, Located at the western gateway to the Lower Rio  
5 Grande Valley, the town originally known as Chapin became the  
6 Hidalgo County seat nearly 100 years ago; although the relocation  
7 from the town of Hidalgo proved controversial when opponents  
8 threatened an injunction, county records were successfully  
9 transported by oxcart to their new home, and since their arrival on  
10 October 14, 1908, the city of Edinburg has remained the official  
11 county seat of Hidalgo County; and

12 WHEREAS, Edinburg was a ranching community in its early  
13 years, but the arrival of the railroad and the introduction of  
14 irrigation in the early 1900s resulted in an influx of farmers from  
15 the Midwest and a shift from ranching to farming; the town was  
16 officially incorporated in 1919; and

17 WHEREAS, The period of significant growth and prosperity that  
18 followed its incorporation may be partly attributed to the forward  
19 thinking of city leaders John Closner and W. F. Sprague; also  
20 instrumental were the development of the town as a center for buying  
21 and processing cotton, grain, and citrus produce and the burgeoning  
22 vegetable, sorghum, corn, sugarcane, and poultry industries; and

23 WHEREAS, In the decades that followed, Edinburg experienced  
24 an unprecedented building boom that included the construction of

1 the Ebony Hills Country Club, Grandview Hospital, and the Sam  
2 Houston and Stephen F. Austin Elementary Schools, all of which  
3 still stand today; during these important years in the town's  
4 history, Edinburg set itself apart as a leader in education; in  
5 1927, Edinburg Junior College was built, and today The University  
6 of Texas-Pan American remains one of the Rio Grande Valley's  
7 premier institutions of higher learning; moreover, the Edinburg  
8 Consolidated School District encompasses 945 square miles, making  
9 it one of the largest in the nation, and offers 27 elementary  
10 schools, four middle schools, three high schools, and an  
11 alternative campus; and

12 WHEREAS, In addition to its outstanding educational  
13 institutions, Edinburg offers its citizens first-rate healthcare  
14 facilities as well as an array of recreational and entertainment  
15 opportunities and cultural centers, such as the South Texas  
16 Historical Museum, which features a variety of exhibitions that  
17 showcase the area's rich and vibrant heritage; home to the 2004  
18 Edinburg Roadrunners CBL champion baseball team, the city also  
19 boasts a number of attractive municipal parks with scenic wetland  
20 trails, a newly constructed world birding center, and an annual  
21 All-American 10K Run/Walk, a family-oriented event that promotes  
22 wellness and fitness and attracts participants from all over Texas  
23 and the world; and

24 WHEREAS, Edinburg has been recognized as an All-America City  
25 three times by the National Civic League, placing it among a handful  
26 of outstanding communities in the nation; under the able leadership  
27 of Mayor Richard Garcia, Mayor Pro Tem Ricardo P. Rodriguez, Jr.,

1 and city commissioners Gene Espinoza, Noe Garza, and Eddie Johnson,  
2 the city remains a close-knit community while experiencing one of  
3 the fastest growth rates in the state; and

4 WHEREAS, Proud of their rich history, the people of Edinburg  
5 are determined to preserve the best of the city's past while they  
6 join together to build a future that is filled with hope and  
7 opportunity; and

8 WHEREAS, Representative Aaron Pena has justly recognized the  
9 city of Edinburg by authoring this honorary resolution in its  
10 behalf during the Regular Session of the 79th Texas Legislature;  
11 now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
13 Legislature hereby recognize February 10, 2005, as Edinburg Day and  
14 extend a warm welcome to those visitors from the city who are with  
15 us today.