

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Texas House of Representatives welcomes back to
2 Austin the Border Blitz delegation, composed of representatives
3 from McAllen, Mission, Pharr, Edinburg, Hidalgo, and Weslaco; and

4 WHEREAS, The gateway to northern Mexico, the Rio Grande
5 Valley is one of Texas' most dynamic regions; rich in cultural
6 diversity, the valley is a flyway between North and South America
7 and offers some of the best birding in the country; the region is
8 the fastest-growing metropolitan statistical area in the state and
9 attributes its prosperity to agriculture and labor-intensive
10 industry; the valley is also booming as a nature ecotourism area;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, McAllen, only three miles from the border, is
13 well-situated for reaping the benefits of anticipated growth in
14 commerce and trade between the United States and Mexico; the town is
15 rich in Hispanic culture, and its laid-back, subtropical setting
16 makes it an ideal winter vacation resort; an area fit for year-round
17 farming, fields of vegetables, sugar cane, and onions are always
18 plentiful, while summer brings cotton, and winter brings grapefruit
19 and oranges; finally, many United States manufacturers combine with
20 Mexican maquiladoras in the Foreign Trade Zone to create a strong
21 manufacturing presence in McAllen; and

22 WHEREAS, The Hidalgo County seat of Edinburg not only enjoys
23 a burgeoning economy but is also the only Texas city named a 2000
24 winner of the All-American City Award; this accolade, the oldest

1 and most prestigious prize accorded communities in the United
2 States, was earned twice previously by the city in 1968 and 1995;
3 home to the premier institution of higher learning in the Rio Grande
4 Valley, The University of Texas--Pan American, Edinburg has shown
5 itself to be a community where concerned citizens can come together
6 to accomplish different goals; and

7 WHEREAS, Located on the Mexican border, the city of Pharr
8 boasts a state-of-the-art international bridge, which connects
9 U.S. Highway 281 to the city of Reynosa, Mexico; Pharr is blessed
10 with a sunny, warm climate, and it is one of the nation's top
11 producers of winter vegetables and citrus fruits; Pharr attributes
12 its prosperity to a diversified economy that includes natural gas
13 and a number of growing industries and businesses such as trucking
14 companies and hotels; and

15 WHEREAS, Situated in southwestern Hidalgo County, the lovely
16 town of Mission proudly calls itself the "Home of the Grapefruit," a
17 fitting title for this producer of the famed Texas Ruby Red variety;
18 a charming town with much civic pride, Mission celebrates the only
19 all-poinsettia show in the United States and is home to the American
20 Poinsettia Society; in addition to its agricultural and tourism
21 industries, 30 industrial plants play a vital role in Mission's
22 economic well-being; and

23 WHEREAS, Located on the Rio Grande in south central Hidalgo
24 County, the city of Hidalgo is renowned for its unique cultural
25 flavor, which comes from its proximity to Mexico's border; like
26 other cities in the valley, Hidalgo is a hub for industry and
27 agriculture, and its citizens take pride in their community and

1 their culture; and

2 WHEREAS, The city of Weslaco, centrally located in the Rio
3 Grande Valley, provides all of the amenities needed for an
4 excellent quality of life; home to nature tourism, the town boasts
5 four sites on the Great Texas Coastal Birding Trail and currently
6 features the Mid-Valley Nature Center and the Frontera Audubon
7 Center and will one day host the Llano Grande World Birding Center;
8 now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
10 Legislature hereby welcome and extend best wishes to the members of
11 the Border Blitz delegation; and, be it further

12 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
13 prepared for the group as a memento of this special occasion.

Flores

H.R. No. 922

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 922 was adopted by the House on March 30, 2005, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House