SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 336

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to welcome the citizens of San Patricio County and to recognize March 9, 2005, as San Patricio County Day at the State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, San Patricio County covers a 693-square mile area in the Coastal Prairies Region; its colonization began in the early 1800s, and the county was established in 1836 by the Congress of the new Republic of Texas; in 1894, Sinton, the site of a railroad stop, became the county seat; located in the center of the county, Sinton is referred to as the "Gateway to the Gulf Coast"; and

WHEREAS, Ranching was the foundation of the county's early economy, and the area's mild, moist climate made it a prime region for agribusiness; the arrival of the railroad in 1885 and the discovery of oil and gas in the early 1900s further gave rise to a more diversified economy; and

WHEREAS, San Patricio County supports a wide variety of wildlife species, and the Rob and Bessie Welder Wildlife Foundation and Refuge provides opportunities for research and education in wildlife conservation; the county is the site of numerous events and festivals, including the annual World Champion Rattlesnake Races held in San Patricio; and

WHEREAS, San Patricio County Day at the State Capitol provides an opportunity for families and friends to honor the county's history and to celebrate its many assets, which are enjoyed today by its residents and vacationers of all ages; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, hereby declare March 9, 2005, San Patricio County Day at the State Capitol and extend best wishes to all attending this event; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the residents of San Patricio County as a memento of this occasion.

Zaffirini

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 9, 2005.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate