

By: Pena

H.R. No. 266

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Members of the Texas House of Representatives are
2 pleased to join with a delegation of citizens of Edinburg in
3 celebrating Edinburg Day at the State Capitol on February 8, 2007;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Long considered the gateway to the lower Rio Grande
6 Valley, Edinburg was originally known as Chapin when it became the
7 Hidalgo County seat nearly 100 years ago; it was a ranching
8 community in its early years, then the arrival of the railroad and
9 the introduction of irrigation in the early 20th century shifted
10 the emphasis of the local economy to the farming of cotton, grain,
11 and citrus; and

12 WHEREAS, Officially incorporated in 1919, Edinburg
13 experienced a period of growth and prosperity fostered by the
14 foresight of such city leaders as John Closner and W. F. Sprague; as
15 a thriving center for agricultural marketing and processing,
16 Edinburg experienced a building boom that included the construction
17 of the Grandview Hospital and the Sam Houston and Stephen F. Austin
18 Elementary Schools, all of which still stand; and

19 WHEREAS, The educational needs of area students are capably
20 met by the Edinburg Consolidated Independent School District;
21 encompassing 945 square miles, the district includes 27 elementary
22 schools, four middle schools, three high schools, and an
23 alternative campus; and

24 WHEREAS, Founded in 1927 as Edinburg Junior College, The

1 University of Texas-Pan American remains one of the Valley's
2 premier institutions of higher learning; the university has
3 recently established a master's degree program in creative writing
4 in order to foster a new generation of South Texas writers; nearing
5 completion on campus is a \$20 million Regional Academic Health
6 Center that will develop treatments for illnesses prevalent along
7 the Texas-Mexico border; the university's Wellness and Recreation
8 Sports Complex, encompassing more than 150,000 square feet, is
9 scheduled to open in August 2007, and a proposed fine arts facility
10 will include classrooms, practice rooms, and event space; and

11 WHEREAS, The Edinburg Children's Hospital has a 24-hour
12 pediatric emergency room; the Doctors Hospital at Renaissance
13 offers a full range of medical and surgical services; and the new
14 Women's Hospital at Renaissance, due to open in spring 2007, will be
15 able to handle the delivery of 8,000 babies a year; and

16 WHEREAS, The vibrant history and culture of the region are
17 highlighted by the Museum of South Texas History; the facility's
18 recent expansion includes the Rio Grande Legacy exhibit, tracing
19 the history of the Valley from prehistoric times to the 19th
20 century; further expansion of the museum will include the
21 continuation of the Rio Grande Legacy exhibit to the present day, as
22 well as the construction of the Will Looney Legacy Park; and

23 WHEREAS, Other Edinburg attractions include the 40-acre
24 wetlands of the World Birding Center, where waterfowl and native
25 plants can be viewed from winding trails and viewing platforms;
26 events such as the annual All-American 10K Run/Walk promote health
27 and fitness, attracting participants from all over Texas and the

1 world; Edinburg is also home to the Texas Cook'Em cook-off, where
2 grill cooks compete to prepare the best steaks, chicken, spare
3 ribs, and brisket; and

4 WHEREAS, Under the able leadership of Mayor Joe Ochoa and
5 city commissioners Gene Espinoza, Agustin G. Garcia, Noe Garza, and
6 Alma A. Garza, the city has experienced steady and positive growth,
7 and Edinburg has been recognized three times by the National Civic
8 League as an All-America City; and

9 WHEREAS, Proud of their rich history, the people of Edinburg
10 are determined to preserve the best of the city's past while joining
11 together to build a future full of hope and opportunity; and

12 WHEREAS, Representative Aaron Pena has justly recognized the
13 city of Edinburg by authoring this honorary resolution in its
14 behalf during the Regular Session of the 80th Texas Legislature;
15 now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
17 Legislature hereby recognize February 8, 2007, as Edinburg Day at
18 the State Capitol and extend a warm welcome to the delegation from
19 Edinburg.