

By: Flores

H.R. No. 442

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The 31st Annual Hidalgo BorderFest will be held
2 March 1-4, 2007, and is expected to attract more than 65,000
3 visitors and residents during its four days of festivities; and

4 WHEREAS, Sponsored by the BorderFest Association, City of
5 Hidalgo, and Hidalgo Chamber of Commerce, BorderFest is the largest
6 and oldest heritage and music festival in South Texas, and the event
7 has long been dedicated to promoting cultural enrichment, arts
8 education, and heritage preservation in South Texas; and

9 WHEREAS, BorderFest celebrates the diverse cultures that
10 make the Rio Grande Valley unique, and it is an opportunity to
11 share, preserve, and showcase the area's heritage through
12 education, music, dance, cultural activities, and family fun; and

13 WHEREAS, Over the last three decades, BorderFest has grown to
14 be a major event in Texas; guided by an enlightened leadership,
15 encouraged by a sympathetic city government, and staffed by a
16 dedicated and enthusiastic corps of volunteers, BorderFest is
17 scheduled annually for the first full weekend in March, and the
18 celebration always pays tribute to a specific nation or historical
19 event; and

20 WHEREAS, This year's festival offers "A Salute to Ireland" as
21 a way to recognize the customs, color, and charm of the Emerald
22 Isle; it also offers us an opportunity to celebrate Texans and
23 Mexicans of Irish descent and experience their rich culture and
24 heritage; and

1 WHEREAS, BorderFest offers 16 stages and features continuous
2 live entertainment, educational opportunities, traditional
3 customs, international friendship embrace at the International
4 Bridge between Mexico and the United States, arts, crafts,
5 cuisines, parades, a carnival, the International Square Dance and
6 Clogging jubilee, and other family activities that showcase the
7 ethnic heritage, music, and culture of the people of the Rio Grande
8 Valley; and

9 WHEREAS, Each year, BorderFest donates tens of thousands of
10 dollars in scholarships to area youth; it has also helped local
11 charities and community organizations raise money through their
12 participation in the festival; and

13 WHEREAS, BorderFest plays an invaluable role in the vitality
14 of Hidalgo and South Texas and continues to be one of the Lone Star
15 State's most entertaining and culturally enriching events; now,
16 therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
18 Legislature hereby commend all associated with the 31st Annual
19 Hidalgo BorderFest for their civic and cultural contributions to
20 their community and extend to them best wishes for a successful
21 celebration.