

By: Morrison

H.R. No. 575

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives of the State of Texas
2 is pleased to join the proud citizens of Victoria in celebrating
3 Victoria Day at the State Capitol on February 28, 2007; and

4 WHEREAS, The city of Victoria and Victoria County have a rich
5 history; one of the historical highlights was when the Republic of
6 Mexico approved Don Martin DeLeon's request for a large land grant
7 on the lower Guadalupe River in 1824; and

8 WHEREAS, A highly respected Mexican citizen, Don Martin
9 DeLeon received permission to establish a town at a site known
10 earlier as Cypress Grove; established with 41 families, the town
11 would become known as Victoria, named after Guadalupe Victoria, the
12 president of Mexico; and

13 WHEREAS, Victoria's Main Street today was known then as La
14 Calle de los Diez Amigos, or The Street of the Ten Friends; the town
15 was incorporated under the Republic of Texas in 1839, and the first
16 property taxes were assessed in 1843; and

17 WHEREAS, Ranching was the first major enterprise in the area,
18 and it brought in capital needed for development; commercial
19 ventures became successful, and by 1917, paved streets were
20 becoming common; by the end of World War II, Victoria had become one
21 of the fastest growing cities in Texas; and

22 WHEREAS, The city has a symphony orchestra, a fine arts
23 association, museums, libraries, and the National Zoo of Texas,
24 which is home to more than 200 native Texas animals and plants; and

1 WHEREAS, Three major highways, railroads, and commercial
2 airlines make Victoria easily accessible to businesses; it is also
3 located on a barge canal which is connected to the Gulf Intracoastal
4 Waterway; as the Victoria County seat, the city serves as the
5 commercial center of this thriving area; and

6 WHEREAS, In the fall of 2004, in front of the sign at the
7 entrance to The Street of the Ten Friends, the Victoria Chamber of
8 Commerce and the Victoria Hispanic Chamber of Commerce announced
9 their intent to merge their two successful organizations; today,
10 the Victoria Chamber of Commerce is stronger for that union and
11 better represents the business community that it serves; and

12 WHEREAS, Victoria is home to excellent public schools, a
13 number of major employers, a university, and a community college;
14 the city offers first-rate medical care, and it is an inviting city
15 with an expanding economy; and

16 WHEREAS, The largest city in the "Golden Crescent Region,"
17 Victoria serves as the health, education, government, and retail
18 service center for a five-county market area with a population of
19 more than 185,000; the city thrives on the area's petrochemical
20 industry, oil and gas exploration, retail trade, and agriculture;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, Two of the city's qualities that appeal to all ages
23 are big-city convenience and small-town friendliness; Victoria is
24 an excellent town in which to live, work, and raise a family, and it
25 is known for its appealing mix of history, natural attractions, and
26 exciting art scene, and Victoria Day at the State Capitol provides a
27 fitting opportunity to honor it; now, therefore, be it

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1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
2 Legislature hereby recognize February 28, 2007, as Victoria Day at
3 the State Capitol and welcome those individuals who have traveled
4 to Austin to take part in the occasion.