

By: Gonzalez Toureilles

H.R. No. 2406

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of McMullen County are gathering in  
2 Austin to celebrate McMullen County Day at the State Capitol on May  
3 21, 2007; and

4 WHEREAS, Located in the center of South Texas, McMullen  
5 County is made up of more than 1,000 square miles of flat and  
6 rolling brushland; human settlement in the county dates back  
7 perhaps as far as 11,000 years, with artifacts from the  
8 Paleo-Indian period of 9200-6000 B.C.E. having been discovered; the  
9 region has been home to groups of hunter-gatherers from about 1000  
10 A.D. until the 1700s, when the Coahuiltecan Indians and then the  
11 Lipan Apaches were forced out, and several Spanish expeditions  
12 passed through the area in the 17th and 18th centuries; and

13 WHEREAS, Named for the Irish pioneer John McMullen, the  
14 county was established in 1858, but the population was sparse, made  
15 up mainly of outlaws and desperadoes; shortly before the Civil War,  
16 settlers began to move into the area to take advantage of the  
17 grasslands for the raising of cattle and the capture of wild  
18 mustangs; and

19 WHEREAS, A group of resourceful adventurers established a  
20 settlement where the Leoncita Creek flowed into the Rio Frio; the  
21 town was first called Rio Frio, then Dog Town, and finally Tilden,  
22 after Samuel J. (Whispering Sammy) Tilden, the unsuccessful  
23 Democratic candidate for president in 1876; the town eventually  
24 became the county seat; and

1           WHEREAS, Cattle and sheep ranching dominate the county's  
2 economy, though oil and gas have grown in importance since the  
3 1930s, and the county is also a destination for hunters; and

4           WHEREAS, McMullen County residents are stewards of an area of  
5 fascinating history and culture, and their unique county merits  
6 special recognition; now, therefore, be it

7           RESOLVED, That the 80th Legislature of the State of Texas  
8 hereby recognize May 21, 2007, as McMullen County Day at the State  
9 Capitol and extend best wishes to the visiting delegation for an  
10 informative and enjoyable stay in Austin.