

By: Morrison

H.R. No. 279

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives is pleased to join the
2 proud citizens of Victoria in celebrating Victoria Day at the State
3 Capitol on February 11, 2009; and

4 WHEREAS, The city of Victoria traces its origins to 1824, the
5 year that the Republic of Mexico approved a request for a large land
6 grant on the lower Guadalupe River for Don Martin DeLeon, a highly
7 respected Mexican citizen; as part of the grant, permission was
8 given to found a town at a site known earlier as Cypress Grove; the
9 community was established with 41 families and was named after
10 Guadalupe Victoria, the president of Mexico; and

11 WHEREAS, The Victoria thoroughfare now known as Main Street
12 was originally named La Calle de los Diez Amigos, or The Street of
13 the Ten Friends; the town was incorporated under the Republic of
14 Texas in 1839, and the first property taxes were assessed in 1843;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Ranching was the first major enterprise in the area,
17 and it brought in capital needed for development; commercial
18 ventures became successful, and paved streets were becoming common
19 in the late 1910s; by the end of World War II, Victoria had become
20 one of the fastest growing cities in Texas; and

21 WHEREAS, Today, the city has a symphony orchestra, a fine
22 arts association, museums, libraries, and the National Zoo of
23 Texas, which is home to more than 150 native Texas animals and
24 plants; and

1 WHEREAS, Railroads, commercial airlines, and three major
2 highways make Victoria easily accessible to businesses; it is also
3 located on a barge canal that 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, Victoria is home to excellent public schools, a
7 number of major employers, a university, and a community college;
8 the city offers first-rate medical care, and it is an inviting city
9 with an expanding economy; and

10 WHEREAS, The largest city in the "Golden Crescent Region,"
11 Victoria serves as the health, education, government, and retail
12 service center for a seven-county market area with a population of
13 more than 200,000; the city thrives on the area's petrochemical
14 industry, oil and gas exploration, retail trade, and agriculture;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Combining big-city convenience and small-town
17 friendliness, Victoria offers a high quality of life, an exciting
18 art scene, and numerous commercial opportunities; this notable
19 Texas community is an excellent place in which to live, work, and
20 raise a family, and it is a pleasure to pay tribute to its many
21 exceptional achievements; now, therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
23 Legislature hereby recognize February 11, 2009, as Victoria Day at
24 the State Capitol and extend a warm welcome to the city residents
25 who have traveled to Austin to take part in this observance.