

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 623

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to welcome the citizens of Reeves County who have come to Austin to visit with legislators and celebrate Reeves County Day at the State Capitol April 15, 2009; and

**WHEREAS**, Reeves County lies in the Trans-Pecos region of the state and consists of 2,626 square miles of terrain that ranges from rolling plains in the northern part to mountainous areas in the extreme southern part; its earliest known inhabitants lived in rock shelters and caves around the edge of the Barrilla Hills and in camps near lakes and springs; and

**WHEREAS**, Settlers of Mexican descent have long farmed in the county's Madera Valley; white settlers were attracted to open range ranching in the last part of the 19th century; the county is named for former state legislator and Confederate Army Colonel George R. Reeves; Pecos is the seat of government; and

**WHEREAS**, By 1881, the Texas and Pacific Railway had built tracks through the county; primary occupations have been farming and ranching, but the discovery of natural gas in the 1950s also contributed to the economy; the oil industry has declined since the oil boom of the 1980s, but the oil industry remains a large part of the economy; and

**WHEREAS**, Reeves County is noted for its West of the Pecos Museum in Pecos and for the Balmorhea State Recreation Area and Lake; its residents and visitors alike enjoy the county's many festivals and events held throughout the year, including Rodeo Week and the cantaloupe festival; and

**WHEREAS**, Reeves County Day is an excellent opportunity for the legislature to pay tribute to the unique history and qualities of Reeves County and the many contributions it has made to the history and development of the state; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 81st Legislature, hereby extend a warm welcome to the representatives of Reeves County and best wishes for an enjoyable Reeves County Day at the State Capitol; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared as an expression of highest regard from the Texas Senate.

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 15, 2009.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate