

By: Raymond

H.R. No. 185

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The city of Laredo is celebrating the life of one of
2 this nation's most revered leaders when it hosts the 114th
3 Washington's Birthday Celebration, featuring more than a month of
4 fun-filled events that began on January 14, 2011; and

5 WHEREAS, This special tradition dates back to February 1898,
6 when the Laredo tribe of the Improved Order of Red Men, a patriotic
7 fraternal organization descended from the Sons of Liberty, staged a
8 spirited mock battle between the Red Men and the defenders of City
9 Hall; the contest, which represented the colonial struggle against
10 the British, ended with the Red Men victorious and the mayor's
11 presentation of the key to the City of Laredo to the "Great Chief
12 Sachem"; and

13 WHEREAS, Combining elements of Hispanic and Anglo cultures,
14 the Laredo celebration features parades, pageants, and concerts, as
15 well as a carnival, a family fun fest, and an air show, and is
16 expected to attract some 400,000 attendees; among its most notable
17 events are the Noche de Cabaret, Comedy Jam for George, Jalapeno
18 Festival, the Princess Pocahontas Pageant and Ball, and the
19 International Bridge Ceremony; moreover, on February 19, at the
20 60th Annual Mr. South Texas Luncheon, Speaker Joe Straus is being
21 honored as Mr. South Texas 2011; and

22 WHEREAS, George Washington, who was born in Virginia on
23 February 22, 1732, left an indelible legacy as this nation's first
24 commander in chief and president; admired for his courage, vision,

1 integrity, and leadership in the darkest days of early independence
2 from Great Britain, he remains one of the most influential and
3 respected United States presidents of all time; and

4 WHEREAS, The citizens of Laredo can take great pride in their
5 city's celebration of our legendary Founding Father, and it is
6 appropriate to take this opportunity to recognize and commend all
7 who participate in the event; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
9 Legislature hereby commemorate the 2011 Washington's Birthday
10 Celebration in Laredo and extend to its organizers and participants
11 sincere best wishes for another successful and memorable
12 observance; and, be it further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
14 prepared for the members of the Washington's Birthday Celebration
15 Association as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of
16 Representatives.