

By: Pena

H.R. No. 771

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Edinburg are gathering in Austin
2 on March 8, 2011, to celebrate Edinburg Day at the State Capitol;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, A vibrant, growing community, Edinburg has
5 approximately 77,000 residents, making it the third-largest city in
6 the Rio Grande Valley; it is the county seat of Hidalgo County and
7 serves as an important educational and commercial center for the
8 booming Texas-Mexico border region; and

9 WHEREAS, Founded on October 10, 1908, the town was known as
10 Chapin until 1911, when it adopted the name Edinburg; ranching
11 formed the basis of its economy until the arrival of the railroad in
12 1909 and irrigation in 1915, changes that spurred a transition to
13 farming and agricultural processing and marketing; the city
14 incorporated on September 19, 1919; and

15 WHEREAS, Edinburg is a forward-looking, pro-business
16 community that is committed to job creation and sustainable
17 economic growth; it is a three-time winner of the All-America City
18 Award, which is given by the National Civic League to recognize
19 communities that have come up with innovative strategies to meet
20 their challenges; and

21 WHEREAS, The educational needs of more than 33,000 area
22 students are capably met by the Edinburg Consolidated Independent
23 School District, which celebrated its centennial in 2009; the
24 district comprises 30 elementary schools, 5 middle schools, 3 high

1 schools, a dropout recovery school called the Vision Academy of
2 Excellence, and an alternative campus; and

3 WHEREAS, The University of Texas-Pan American, which was
4 founded in 1927 as Edinburg Junior College, remains one of the
5 Valley's premier institutions of higher learning; its seven
6 colleges offer approximately 120 degree programs: 57 master's, 56
7 bachelor's, 3 doctoral, and 2 collaborative doctoral degrees; in
8 the past decade, graduation rates for undergraduates have doubled;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, The Regional Academic Health Center includes The
11 University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio research
12 campus in Edinburg, an educational campus in Harlingen, and a
13 public health campus in Brownsville; and

14 WHEREAS, Edinburg has established a first-class network of
15 public and private health assets that form the Edinburg Medical
16 Corridor; this health industry sector, which includes major
17 hospital systems, employs thousands of medical professionals and
18 features the latest medical technology; and

19 WHEREAS, The vibrant history of the region is preserved by
20 the Museum of South Texas History; the museum's recent expansion
21 includes the installation of the world-class Rio Grande Legacy
22 exhibit, tracing the history of the Valley from prehistoric times
23 to the 20th century, and the construction of the Will Looney Legacy
24 Park; and

25 WHEREAS, Edinburg's dynamic business climate led to record
26 sales tax figures in 2010 and attracted major employers, such as the
27 Santana Textiles denim manufacturing plant and the Rio Grande

1 Valley Produce park, both under construction; and

2 WHEREAS, Often called the gateway to the Rio Grande Valley,
3 Edinburg is under the leadership of Mayor Richard H. Garcia, Mayor
4 Pro Tem Agustin "Gus" Garcia, and city council members Noe Garza,
5 Gene Espinoza, and Alma Garza; it is a dynamic city with a bright
6 future, and its hardworking citizens can take justifiable pride in
7 their accomplishments; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
9 Legislature hereby recognize March 8, 2011, as Edinburg Day at the
10 State Capitol and extend sincere best wishes to all those in
11 attendance for an enjoyable visit to Austin.