

By: Gallego

H.R. No. 1119

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, On March 31, 2011, proud residents of Reeves County
2 are gathering at the State Capitol to celebrate their county's
3 achievements; and

4 WHEREAS, Habitation of Reeves County began in prehistoric
5 times, with the earliest residents dwelling in rock shelters and
6 caves in the Barilla Hills, where artifacts and pictographs provide
7 clues to their way of life; by the time Spanish explorer Antonio de
8 Espejo visited the region in 1583, the Jumano Indians had
9 established irrigated crops of corn and peaches, and farmers of
10 Mexican descent later prospered in the fertile Madera Valley; the
11 first Anglo farmers arrived in Toyah Valley in the early 1870s; and

12 WHEREAS, Bringing a new era, the Texas and Pacific Railway
13 arrived in 1881; the county was organized three years later and
14 named after George R. Reeves, a state legislator and colonel in the
15 Confederate army; Pecos, the county seat, attracted colorful
16 characters as a crossroads for cattle trails and the railroad, and
17 its frontier days saw several infamous gunfights; a roping and
18 riding competition staged on the Fourth of July in 1883 established
19 a robust rodeo tradition perpetuated with the annual West of the
20 Pecos Rodeo, which is marking its 129th anniversary in June; and

21 WHEREAS, Ranching and farming remain vibrant components of
22 the Reeves County economy; the alkaline soil and optimal growing
23 conditions produce the Pecos cantaloupe, known nationwide for its
24 flavor, as well as cotton, pecans, pistachios, and other crops; oil

1 and natural gas represent another aspect of the economy, while
2 tourists are drawn by the scenery, including such spots as the
3 spring-fed pool at Balmorhea State Park, and by the West of the
4 Pecos Museum, which offers the unique opportunity to explore the
5 rooms of a historic hotel and saloon; and

6 WHEREAS, Rich in Western heritage and natural beauty, Reeves
7 County can boast of many distinctive features, and its citizens may
8 take justifiable pride in the important role their unique region
9 continues to play in the story of the Lone Star State; now,
10 therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
12 Legislature hereby recognize March 31, 2011, as Reeves County Day
13 at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation sincere
14 best wishes for a memorable and productive stay in Austin.