

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 413

WHEREAS, Members of the Texas Senate are pleased to join with a delegation of citizens of Edinburg in celebrating Edinburg Day at the State Capitol on March 8, 2011; and

WHEREAS, Long considered the gateway to the lower Rio Grande Valley, Edinburg was originally known as Chapin; it was a ranching community until the introduction of the railroad and irrigation in the early 20th century shifted the emphasis of the local economy to the farming of cotton, grain, and citrus; and

WHEREAS, Officially incorporated in 1919, Edinburg experienced a period of prosperity fostered by the foresight of such city leaders as John Closner and W. F. Sprague; as a center for agricultural marketing and processing, Edinburg experienced a building boom that included the construction of the Grandview Hospital and the Sam Houston and Stephen F. Austin Elementary Schools, all of which still stand; and

WHEREAS, The educational needs of area students are met by the Edinburg Consolidated Independent School District; the district includes 30 elementary schools, five middle schools, three high schools, a dropout recovery school called the Vision Academy of Excellence, and an alternative education campus; and

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

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

WHEREAS, Edinburg has established a first-class network of public and private health assets featuring major hospital systems along key segments of the city known as the Edinburg Medical Corridor, which employs thousands of medical professionals and features cutting-edge medical technology; and

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

WHEREAS, Edinburg's dynamic business climate led to record sales tax figures in 2010 and attracted major employers such as the Santana Textiles denim manufacturing plant and the Rio Grande Valley Produce park, both under construction; and

WHEREAS, In October of 2008, Edinburg celebrated its centennial as the county seat of Hidalgo County; Edinburg has been recognized three times by the National Civic League as an All-America City; the people of Edinburg are determined to preserve the best of the city's past while building a future full of hope and opportunity; now, therefore, be it

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RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 82nd Legislature, hereby recognize March 8, 2011, as Edinburg Day at the State Capitol and extend a warm welcome to the delegation from Edinburg; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for them as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Hinojosa

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 8, 2011.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate