

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud citizens of Laredo are gathering in Austin to
2 celebrate Laredo Day at the State Capitol on January 30, 2013; and

3 WHEREAS, Originally known as San Agustin de Laredo, the city
4 was founded in 1755 as an outpost of the Spanish empire; it later
5 belonged to Mexico, after that country gained independence from
6 Spain in 1821, and served as the capital of the short-lived Republic
7 of the Rio Grande; Laredo became part of Texas in 1846 and was
8 subsequently chosen as the seat of Webb County; and

9 WHEREAS, From its earliest days, Laredo was an important
10 crossing on the Rio Grande and a trading center for livestock,
11 hides, and wool; its role in international trade expanded with the
12 arrival of the railroad in 1881 and with the development of the Zona
13 Libre, or free trade zone, along the border between the United
14 States and Mexico; its economy was further helped by coal mining,
15 the introduction of onion farming, and the discovery of rich oil and
16 gas fields; and

17 WHEREAS, Today, this bustling gateway city is the largest
18 inland port along the Rio Grande and one of the top six U.S. Customs
19 districts in the nation, and its diverse economy benefits from the
20 retail, hospitality, import and export, and petroleum industries;
21 the city handles 40 percent of all trade between the United States
22 and Mexico; Laredo is also a focus for higher education in the Rio
23 Grande Valley, as the home to Texas A&M International University,
24 two campuses of Laredo Community College, and an extension campus

1 of The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio; and

2 WHEREAS, Visitors and residents alike may explore such area
3 attractions as the historic San Agustin Cathedral, the Republic of
4 the Rio Grande Museum, and the Laredo Center for the Arts, while 40
5 blocks of import vendors along San Bernardo Avenue draw shoppers
6 from near and far; in addition, Laredo is home to Washington's
7 Birthday Celebration, a 116-year-old, month-long event that
8 includes a carnival, a colonial pageant, a jalapeno festival, and a
9 parade; and

10 WHEREAS, Heirs to a rich history and a vibrant international
11 culture, the citizens of Laredo may indeed take great pride in their
12 city's two and a half centuries of progress and achievement; now,
13 therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
15 Legislature hereby recognize January 30, 2013, as Laredo Day at the
16 State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation sincere best
17 wishes for a memorable and meaningful visit to Austin.

Raymond

Straus	M. Gonzalez of El Paso	Oliveira
Allen	N. Gonzalez of El Paso	Orr
Alonzo	Gooden	Otto
Alvarado	Guerra	Paddie
Anchia	Guillen	Parker
Anderson	Gutierrez	Patrick
Ashby	Harless	Perez
Aycock	Harper-Brown	Perry
Bell	Hernandez Luna	Phillips
Bohac	Herrero	Pickett
Bonnen of Brazoria	Hilderbran	Pitts
Bonnen of Galveston	Howard	Price
Branch	Huberty	Raney
Burkett	Hughes	Ratliff
Burnam	Hunter	Raymond
Button	Isaac	Reynolds
Callegari	Johnson	Riddle
Canales	Kacal	Ritter
Capriglione	Keffer	Rodriguez of Bexar
Carter	King of Hemphill	Rodriguez of Travis
Clardy	King of Parker	Rose
Coleman	King of Taylor	Sanford
Collier	King of Zavala	Schaefer
Cook	Kleinschmidt	Sheets
Cortez	Klick	Sheffield of Bell
Craddick	Kolkhorst	Sheffield of Coryell
Creighton	Krause	Simmons
Crownover	Kuempel	Simpson
Dale	Larson	Smith
Darby	Laubenberg	Smithee
Davis of Dallas	Lavender	Springer
J. Davis of Harris	Leach	Stephenson
S. Davis of Harris	Lewis	Stickland
Deshotel	Longoria	Strama
Dukes	Lozano	Taylor
Dutton	Lucio III	Thompson of Brazoria
Eiland	Marquez	Thompson of Harris
Elkins	Martinez	Toth
Fallon	Martinez Fischer	Turner of Collin
Farias	McClendon	Turner of Harris
Farney	Menendez	Turner of Tarrant
Farrar	Miles	Villalba
Fletcher	Miller of Comal	Villarreal
Flynn	Miller of Fort Bend	Vo
Frank	Moody	Walle
Frullo	Morrison	White
Geren	Munoz, Jr.	Workman
Giddings	Murphy	Wu
Goldman	Naishtat	Zedler
Gonzales	Nevarez	Zerwas

H.R. No. 255

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 255 was adopted by the House on January 30, 2013, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House