

By: Longoria

H.R. No. 423

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Many proud residents of Penitas traveled to the
2 State Capitol on January 30, 2013, and the visit provided a showcase
3 for the city's rich heritage and vibrant features; and

4 WHEREAS, According to local tradition, Penitas was founded by
5 a group of survivors of the Panfilo de Narvaez expedition of 1520;
6 formed to supplant Hernando Cortez and his forces in Mexico, the
7 expedition failed when Narvaez and his troops were defeated in
8 battle and imprisoned; after being released the next year, Narvaez
9 embarked on a second expedition to Florida, leaving behind Fray
10 Zamora and several of his officers, who instead opted to settle in a
11 site along the Rio Grande; Zamora's group befriended the local
12 Calero Indians and began homesteading the land, which they named
13 Penitas, meaning "little stones"; today, this moment in history is
14 commemorated with a Texas Historical Marker; and

15 WHEREAS, Now home to some 7,500 residents, Penitas is a
16 fast-growing city that benefits from the able leadership of Mayor
17 Marcos Ochoa, city manager Noe Cavazos, and the members of the city
18 council, mayor pro tempore Antonio Flores, Jr., Tomas Cedillo, Jose
19 Roel Flores, and Alejandro Guajardo; through joint efforts with
20 agencies and organizations, these dedicated public servants are
21 working to foster economic growth and enhance the quality of life of
22 their fellow citizens; and

23 WHEREAS, Visitors and residents of Penitas enjoy its many
24 recreational opportunities, including a number of public parks and

1 historical sites; each fall, people from throughout the area gather
2 together for the Penitas White Wing Festival, a celebration hosted
3 by the City of Penitas and the White Wing Festival Committee, which
4 draws crowds of thousands for such activities as a cook-off, a 5K
5 race, a beauty pageant, a car show, and numerous live musical
6 performances; proceeds from this event help finance service
7 projects; and

8 WHEREAS, Heirs to a colorful history and a lively culture,
9 the citizens of Penitas may indeed take great pride in their
10 community as they look ahead to a future bright with promise; now,
11 therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
13 Legislature hereby recognize the history and achievements of the
14 City of Penitas and extend to its residents sincere best wishes for
15 the future.