

By: Pickett

H.R. No. 105

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The Texas House of Representatives is pleased to  
2 recognize February 10 and 11, 2015, as El Paso Days at the State  
3 Capitol; and

4           WHEREAS, Located in the westernmost tip of the great state of  
5 Texas, the city of El Paso combines a modern metropolis with the  
6 charm born of its Spanish origins; the area was named El Paso by the  
7 Spanish conquistador Don Juan de Onate because of the shallow place  
8 in the river where the colonists crossed en route to Santa Fe, New  
9 Mexico; and

10           WHEREAS, The arrival of the railroads in 1881 ushered in an  
11 era of prosperity, and El Paso became a flourishing frontier  
12 community that has developed into a significant industrial,  
13 commercial, and transportation city; and

14           WHEREAS, Today, semitrailers, trains, and planes transport  
15 manufactured goods through the border cities at the Pass, just as  
16 Spanish traders did in the 16th century when they guided ox-drawn  
17 carts along the Camino Real from Mexico City to Santa Fe; and

18           WHEREAS, With a population of nearly 700,000, El Paso is the  
19 state's sixth-largest city and the 19th-largest city in the United  
20 States; one of the largest American cities on the 2,000-mile  
21 U.S.-Mexico border, it lies on the Rio Grande north of Ciudad  
22 Juarez, Mexico's fifth-largest city, with a population of more than  
23 a million; and

24           WHEREAS, Nearby Fort Bliss, which celebrates its 167th

1 anniversary this year, has recently completed the biggest  
2 transformation in its history, with a 300 percent increase in its  
3 population since 2005 and an investment of \$6 billion in  
4 construction for new, top-of-the-line facilities for incoming  
5 personnel and their families, including a new billion-dollar  
6 military hospital; at the forefront of the U.S. Army's  
7 transformation plan, the post has transitioned from a TRADOC to a  
8 FORSCOM installation; and

9 WHEREAS, El Paso is a vibrant, bilingual community; its  
10 residents enjoy a thriving fine arts community, exemplary  
11 educational institutions, and many cultural and historical  
12 resources and museums; and

13 WHEREAS, El Paso Days at the State Capitol provide an  
14 opportunity to honor El Paso and its rich heritage, which today is  
15 enjoyed by residents and vacationers of all ages; now, therefore,  
16 be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas  
18 Legislature hereby recognize February 10 and 11, 2015, as El Paso  
19 Days at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation  
20 sincere best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable visit to Austin;  
21 and, be it further

22 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
23 prepared for the delegation as an expression of high regard by the  
24 Texas House of Representatives.