

By: Lozano

H.R. No. 137

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Citizens of Jim Wells County are assembling at the  
2 State Capitol on February 17, 2015, to celebrate the importance of  
3 their home to the history of the State of Texas; and

4 WHEREAS, A landscape of sweeping grasslands and wide  
5 horizons, the county's early inhabitants, the Chaguane and Payuguan  
6 tribes, enjoyed the region's mild winters and abundant game; after  
7 the first European settlement in 1754, at Penitas Creek, Mexican  
8 ranchers developed land grants into sheep and cattle ranches; in  
9 1848 the region became part of the State of Texas, and it was  
10 formally incorporated as a county in 1911 and named after the  
11 prominent politician James B. Wells Jr.; and

12 WHEREAS, With the arrival of the railroad in the 1870s,  
13 county seat Alice became the most important livestock shipment  
14 junction in South Texas, and ranching has remained a mainstay of the  
15 county's economy ever since; cotton and sorghum are important  
16 crops, as are hay, corn, and wheat; it is a center for health care,  
17 with an outstanding medical facility, the CHRISTUS Spohn Hospital  
18 Alice, and since the discovery of oil in 1931, it has become one of  
19 the state's leaders in oil production; and

20 WHEREAS, The Tejano R.O.O.T.S. Hall of Fame in Alice honors  
21 Tejano culture and recognizes the region as the birthplace of this  
22 popular musical genre; area culture is further showcased at the  
23 South Texas Museum, housed in the historic McGill Brothers Building  
24 in Alice, and the annual Fiesta Bandana, celebrating Cinco de Mayo,

1 is a highlight of the county's cultural calendar; and

2 WHEREAS, The hardworking and forward-looking citizens of Jim  
3 Wells County are building on a long tradition of industry,  
4 achievements, and public spirit, and they are indeed worthy of  
5 special recognition; now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas  
7 Legislature hereby recognize February 17, 2015, as Jim Wells County  
8 Day at the State Capitol and extend to its citizens sincere best  
9 wishes for a memorable visit to Austin.