

By: Lozano

H.R. No. 309

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Many proud residents of Bee County are gathering at
2 the State Capitol to celebrate Bee County Day on February 10, 2015;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Artifacts indicate that the region was originally
5 inhabited 6,000 to 10,000 years ago; the first permanent European
6 settlers arrived in the early 19th century, and 11 area landowners
7 were among the signers of the Texas Declaration of Independence;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Bee County was officially organized on January 25,
10 1858, and named for Barnard E. Bee Sr., a South Carolina attorney,
11 soldier, and statesman who joined the Army of the Republic of Texas
12 and served as secretary of war under Sam Houston; and

13 WHEREAS, Located in the South Texas Plains vegetation region,
14 the county covers 866 square miles that slope gently toward the Gulf
15 Coast; with the region's open expanses of grasslands, its economy
16 is dominated by farming and ranching along with oil and gas
17 operations and agribusiness; Beeville is the county seat, and other
18 towns in the county include Skidmore, Blue Berry Hill, Pettus,
19 Tuleta, Tynan, Pawnee, Normanna, and Mineral; and

20 WHEREAS, Bee County is blessed with an array of cultural and
21 historical attractions for residents and visitors to explore;
22 Beeville has successfully revitalized its downtown district and has
23 been named a Texas Main Street City by the Texas Historical
24 Commission; Coastal Bend College--Beeville offers occupational as

1 well as academic classes for its students, and it has the oldest
2 academic educational glassblowing facility in the state; art
3 enthusiasts may delight in the exhibits of the Beeville Art Museum,
4 which is funded by the Joe Barnhart Foundation and housed in the
5 historic Esther Barnhart House; in addition, visitors come from all
6 across Texas to celebrate the state's rich traditions at Western
7 Week, one of the county's largest and longest-running festivals;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, The residents of Bee County may take great pride in
10 their heritage and contributions to the Lone Star State, and it is
11 indeed appropriate to pay tribute to the county and its citizens on
12 this special day; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
14 Legislature hereby recognize February 10, 2015, as Bee County Day
15 at the State Capitol and extend to those visiting today sincere best
16 wishes for an enjoyable stay in Austin.