

By: Nevárez

H.R. No. 367

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Citizens of Reeves County are celebrating Reeves
2 County Day at the State Capitol; and

3 WHEREAS, Habitation of Reeves County began in prehistoric
4 times, with the earliest residents dwelling in rock shelters and
5 caves in the Barrilla Hills, where artifacts and pictographs
6 provide clues to their way of life; by the time Spanish explorer
7 Antonio de Espejo visited the region in 1583, the Jumano Indians had
8 established irrigated crops of corn and peaches, and farmers of
9 Mexican descent later prospered in the fertile Madera Valley; the
10 first Anglo farmers settled in Toyah Valley in the early 1870s; and

11 WHEREAS, In 1881, the area witnessed the opening of a new
12 chapter in its history with the arrival of the Texas and Pacific
13 Railway; the county was organized three years later and named after
14 George R. Reeves, a state legislator and colonel in the Confederate
15 Army; Pecos, the county seat, attracted colorful characters as a
16 crossroads for both cattle trails and railroads, and its frontier
17 days saw several infamous gunfights; a roping and riding
18 competition staged on the Fourth of July in 1883 launched what is
19 now the West of the Pecos Rodeo, which is marking its 132nd
20 anniversary in July 2015; and

21 WHEREAS, Ranching and farming remain vibrant components of
22 the Reeves County economy; the alkaline soil and optimal growing
23 conditions produce the Pecos cantaloupe, known nationwide for its
24 sweet flavor, as well as cotton, pecans, pistachios, and other

1 crops; oil and natural gas represent another aspect of the economy,
2 while tourists are drawn by the scenery, including such spots as the
3 spring-fed pool at Balmorhea State Park, and by the West of the
4 Pecos Museum, which offers the unique opportunity to explore the
5 rooms of a historic hotel and saloon; and

6 WHEREAS, Rich in Western heritage and natural beauty, Reeves
7 County can boast of many distinctive features, and its citizens may
8 take justifiable pride in the important role their unique region
9 continues to play in the story of the Lone Star State; now,
10 therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
12 Legislature hereby recognize Reeves County Day at the State Capitol
13 and extend to the visiting delegation sincere best wishes for an
14 enjoyable stay in Austin.