

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Residents of neighboring communities Harlingen and  
2 San Benito are gathering in Austin on February 11, 2015, to  
3 celebrate Harlingen-San Benito Day at the State Capitol; and

4           WHEREAS, From the moment in 1904 when Lon C. Hill placed his  
5 proposed town site astride the tracks of the St. Louis,  
6 Brownsville, and Mexico Railway, Harlingen was destined to become a  
7 crossroads; the first train passed through the rugged settlement  
8 that railroad workers called "Rattlesnake Junction" on July 4,  
9 1904; and

10           WHEREAS, San Benito, which has benefited from the leadership  
11 of such pioneers as Colonel Sam Robertson, has contributed to the  
12 economic rise of Cameron County and the Rio Grande Valley through  
13 the establishment of an expansive irrigation system and a  
14 significant railroad system; and

15           WHEREAS, Harlingen's World War II army air field evolved into  
16 Harlingen Air Force Base and then Valley International Airport, the  
17 largest airport in the Rio Grande Valley; additionally, Harlingen's  
18 Free Trade Bridge gives access to Mexico, and its barge port  
19 connects to the Intracoastal Waterway; and

20           WHEREAS, San Benito has been home to a number of Texas  
21 legends, including Olympic medalist Bobby Morrow and music star  
22 Freddy Fender; the city also has a proud tradition of military  
23 service; native sons and daughters have served in every U.S.  
24 conflict, and during World War II, the municipal airport was used

1 for reconnaissance of the Gulf of Mexico; and

2 WHEREAS, The semitropical climate, natural resources, and  
3 friendly people have long made Harlingen and San Benito  
4 destinations for travelers, including Winter Texans, birders, and  
5 other outdoor enthusiasts; today the Iwo Jima Memorial, the  
6 historical downtown district with its mural and heritage trails,  
7 and an abundance of sports fields and parks have expanded  
8 Harlingen's list of attractions; and

9 WHEREAS, San Benito promotes, preserves, and supports  
10 cultural arts and programs to generate tourism to Texas through  
11 such outstanding organizations as the Texas Conjunto Music Hall of  
12 Fame Museum, the San Benito Historical Museum, the Freddy Fender  
13 Museum, and the Narciso Martinez Cultural Arts Center; and

14 WHEREAS, The caring hearts of Harlingen and San Benito  
15 residents have spurred the community's development into a regional  
16 health care hub with assets including Valley Baptist Health System,  
17 Harlingen Medical Center, and Muniz Rio Grande Pharmacy; and

18 WHEREAS, Residents of both cities have long understood  
19 education as a key to the future and have supported efforts to  
20 expand public and private schools, including remarkable assets such  
21 as Texas State Technical College and the Regional Academic Health  
22 Center, which has played an important role in medical services and  
23 education across the Valley since 1999; and

24 WHEREAS, Together, Harlingen and San Benito create a dynamic  
25 community that more than 100,000 people are proud to call home; now,  
26 therefore, be it

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas

H.R. No. 378

1 Legislature hereby recognize February 11, 2015, as Harlingen-San  
2 Benito Day at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting  
3 delegation sincere best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable  
4 visit.

Lucio III  
Longoria

H.R. No. 378

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 378 was adopted by the House on  
February 11, 2015, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House