

By: Guillen

H.R. No. 894

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The year 2015 marks the 50th anniversary of the Muy
2 Grande Deer Contest in Freer, one of the state's pioneering hunting
3 competitions; and

4 WHEREAS, Muy Grande got its start in the 1960s, when Leonel
5 Garza, the manager of the Center Circle Gas Station in Freer, helped
6 a stranded outdoor sports writer whose truck had become stuck in the
7 mud outside town; the journalist went on to write an article about
8 the experience for the *Victoria Advocate*, and the story was
9 subsequently picked up by newspapers throughout the state; in 1965,
10 to capitalize on his newfound fame, Mr. Garza established the Muy
11 Grande Deer Contest, which was initially a small one-category
12 competition hosted in the gas station with a makeshift prize,
13 Mr. Garza's own wristwatch; and

14 WHEREAS, The contest became an annual tradition and inspired
15 the creation of many other hunting competitions in Texas; its
16 popularity led to the gas station being renamed the Muy Grande
17 Hunting Village, and in 2008 the store moved to a new, larger
18 building to keep up with the increased demand for its services;
19 today, the contest attracts hunters from all across Texas and the
20 United States, who compete in a wide range of categories divided by
21 age, gender, and hunting location; and

22 WHEREAS, The Muy Grande Deer Contest plays a significant role
23 in the local economy, focusing attention on the town and boosting
24 commerce in addition to generally promoting the area's outstanding

1 hunting opportunities; the event also gives back to the community
2 by funding scholarships that are awarded to local high school
3 students during the Muy Grande awards banquet; and

4 WHEREAS, For the past half-century, the Muy Grande Deer
5 Contest has served as a cultural cornerstone for residents of South
6 Texas and a much-anticipated gathering for hunting enthusiasts
7 throughout the nation, and it is indeed deserving of recognition on
8 the event of this milestone in its history; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
10 Legislature hereby commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Muy
11 Grande Deer Contest and extend sincere best wishes to all those
12 associated with the event; and, be it further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
14 prepared for the contest as an expression of high regard by the
15 Texas House of Representatives.