

By: Canales

H.R. No. 2835

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Pharr-Reynosa International Bridge is one of the
2 most important ports of entry on the United States-Mexico border;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Opened in 1994, the bridge spans 3.2 miles as it
5 connects U.S. Highway 281 to the rapidly growing city of Reynosa,
6 one of northern Mexico's major industrial cities, and it is
7 crossed, on average, by 110,000-125,000 vehicles each month; and

8 WHEREAS, With its strategic location in an area that features
9 extensive infrastructure and services as well as strong growth
10 potential, the bridge bolsters the economies of both Pharr and
11 Reynosa by improving the convenience of operations for importers,
12 exporters, and domestic and multinational manufacturing companies;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, The Pharr-Reynosa International Bridge is
15 recognized as the most-utilized commercial bridge in South Texas;
16 in 2014, it carried a record-setting \$30.62 billion in trade, an
17 increase of \$2.17 billion or 7.63 percent over the previous year's
18 total, and Pharr ranked no. 29 for total trade among the nation's
19 roughly 450 airports, seaports, and border crossings; heavily used
20 for the transport of produce, the bridge ranked first among U.S.
21 air, sea, and land border crossings for avocados, melons, and
22 berries, and it was no. 2 for tomato imports and for produce
23 overall; and

24 WHEREAS, Commercial traffic enjoys the fastest crossing time

1 in the Rio Grande Valley at the Pharr-Reynosa International Bridge;
2 known as "the intelligent bridge," this vital international
3 transportation link employs the Free and Secure Trade "F.A.S.T.
4 Lane" program, which allows for the expedited inspection of
5 documents and cargoes, as well as the Automated Commercial
6 Environment program; in addition, bridge security uses gamma ray
7 inspection equipment and other state-of-the-art technology;
8 current data indicates the increase in commercial truck traffic at
9 the bridge reflects industry confidence in the port's safety,
10 convenience, and prompt adaptation to the needs and expectations of
11 international commerce representatives; and

12 WHEREAS, The bridge's success has been made possible through
13 the outstanding efforts of many area residents, including Pharr
14 city manager Fred Sandoval, members of the city commission, and the
15 bridge's board of directors, which is composed of elected officials
16 and community representatives; moreover, the many skilled and
17 dedicated individuals involved in the bridge's operations and
18 maintenance are essential to its mission, as are the local staff and
19 officers of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S.
20 Department of Homeland Security and its U.S. Customs and Border
21 Protection agency; and

22 WHEREAS, The Pharr-Reynosa International Bridge plays an
23 important role in this country's international trade, and it has
24 contributed significantly to the economic development of the Rio
25 Grande Valley and to the prosperity of the Lone Star State; now,
26 therefore, be it

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

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1 Legislature hereby recognize the Pharr-Reynosa International
2 Bridge for its major significance as a port of entry and extend
3 sincere appreciation to all those whose work has furthered the
4 bridge's operation.