

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The annual Texas Citrus Fiesta is being held in
2 Mission in January 2017, and this year's celebration represents a
3 special milestone, the 80th time this popular event has taken
4 place; and

5 WHEREAS, The Texas Citrus Fiesta was created in 1932 by Paul
6 Ord and the Young Men's Business League to promote the Rio Grande
7 Valley's burgeoning citrus industry and to showcase the region's
8 abundant winter harvest of grapefruit and oranges; set against the
9 background of citrus groves, that first outdoor festival was themed
10 a "Coronation and Pageant of Citrus," and it featured a parade, a
11 concert, a football game, and the coronation of King Citrus and
12 Queen Citrianna, in addition to other events; and

13 WHEREAS, Apart from a few years during World War II and one
14 year when the crop was damaged by a hurricane, the event has been
15 held annually ever since, and it has grown to encompass a youth show
16 exhibit tent, a fun fair, a vaquero cook-off, and a formal black-tie
17 gala; special highlights include the Parade of Oranges, featuring
18 marching bands, dignitaries, horse riders, and floats covered with
19 citrus and agricultural products, and the coronation of the fiesta
20 royalty; and

21 WHEREAS, Another highly anticipated part of the festival is
22 the Product Costume Show, in which contestants from around the
23 region appear in imaginative outfits decorated with dried,
24 powdered, and crystallized fruits and vegetables grown in the Rio

1 Grande Valley; these remarkable works of art have been displayed at
2 the White House in Washington, D.C., and in the Texas State Capitol
3 in Austin, and they have been featured over the years in newsreels,
4 in *Ripley's Believe It Or Not!*, and in such magazines as *National*
5 *Geographic*, *Southern Living*, and *Texas Monthly*; and

6 WHEREAS, For eight decades, the Texas Citrus Fiesta has been
7 a popular celebration of agricultural abundance and vibrant
8 community spirit, and its continuing success is a testament to the
9 commitment, creativity, and pride of the people of Mission and the
10 Rio Grande Valley; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
12 Legislature hereby commemorate the 2017 Texas Citrus Fiesta and
13 extend to its organizers, participants, and guests sincere best
14 wishes as they take part in the 80th celebration of this special
15 event; and, be it further

16 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
17 prepared for the Texas Citrus Fiesta as an expression of high regard
18 by the Texas House of Representatives.

Muñoz, Jr.

H.R. No. 117

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 117 was adopted by the House on
January 24, 2017, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House