

By: Lozano

H.R. No. 130

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Bee County are gathering at the  
2 State Capitol to celebrate Bee County Day on February 14, 2017; and

3 WHEREAS, Artifacts indicate that the region was originally  
4 inhabited 6,000 to 10,000 years ago; the first permanent European  
5 settlers arrived in the early 19th century, and 11 area landowners  
6 were among the signers of the Texas Declaration of Independence;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Bee County was officially organized on January 25,  
9 1858, and named for Barnard E. Bee Sr., a South Carolina attorney,  
10 soldier, and statesman who joined the Army of the Republic of Texas  
11 and later served as secretary of war under Sam Houston; and

12 WHEREAS, Located in the South Texas Plains vegetation region,  
13 the county covers 866 square miles that slope gently toward the Gulf  
14 Coast; with the region's open expanses of grasslands, its economy  
15 is dominated by farming and ranching along with oil and gas  
16 operations and agribusiness; Beeville is the county seat, and other  
17 towns in the county include Skidmore, Blue Berry Hill, Pettus,  
18 Tuleta, Tynan, Pawnee, Normanna, and Mineral; and

19 WHEREAS, Bee County is blessed with an array of cultural and  
20 historical attractions for residents and visitors to explore;  
21 Beeville has successfully revitalized its downtown district and has  
22 been named a Texas Main Street City by the Texas Historical  
23 Commission; Coastal Bend College--Beeville offers occupational as  
24 well as academic classes for its students, and it has the oldest

1 academic educational glassblowing facility in the state; art  
2 enthusiasts may delight in the exhibits of the Beeville Art Museum,  
3 which is funded by the Joe Barnhart Foundation and housed in the  
4 historic Esther Barnhart House; in addition, visitors come from all  
5 across Texas to celebrate the state's rich traditions at Western  
6 Week, one of the county's largest and longest-running festivals;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, The citizens of Bee County may indeed take great  
9 pride in their vibrant heritage as they work together to build an  
10 even brighter future, and this special day provides a welcome  
11 opportunity to pay tribute to the county and its people; now,  
12 therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
14 Legislature hereby recognize February 14, 2017, as Bee County Day  
15 at the State Capitol and extend to those visiting today sincere best  
16 wishes for an enjoyable stay in Austin.