

By: Lozano

H.R. No. 131

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Residents of Jim Wells County are assembling at the
2 State Capitol on February 7, 2017, to celebrate the importance of
3 their home to the history of the State of Texas; and

4 WHEREAS, A landscape of sweeping grasslands and wide
5 horizons, the county's early inhabitants, the Chaguane and Payuguan
6 tribes, enjoyed the region's mild winters and abundant game; after
7 the first European settlement in 1754, at Penitas Creek, Mexican
8 ranchers developed land grants into sheep and cattle ranches; in
9 1848 the region became part of the State of Texas, and it was
10 formally incorporated as a county in 1911 and named after the
11 prominent developer and attorney James B. Wells Jr.; and

12 WHEREAS, With the arrival of the railroad in the 1870s, Alice
13 became the most important livestock shipment junction in South
14 Texas, and ranching has remained a mainstay of the county's economy
15 ever since; cotton and sorghum are important crops, as are hay,
16 corn, and wheat; the county seat, Alice is a center for health care,
17 with an outstanding medical facility, the CHRISTUS Spohn Hospital
18 Alice, and since the discovery of oil in the area in 1931, the
19 county has become one of the state's leaders in oil production; and

20 WHEREAS, The Tejano R.O.O.T.S. Hall of Fame in Alice honors
21 Tejano culture and recognizes the region as the birthplace of this
22 popular musical genre; area culture is further showcased at the
23 South Texas Museum, housed in the historic McGill Brothers Building
24 in Alice, and the annual Fiesta Bandana, celebrating Cinco de Mayo,

1 is a highlight of the county's cultural calendar; and

2 WHEREAS, Celebrating their vibrant heritage as they embrace
3 the opportunities of the future, the citizens of Jim Wells County
4 are building on a long tradition of industry, achievement, and
5 public spirit, and they are indeed deserving of special
6 recognition; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
8 Legislature hereby recognize February 7, 2017, as Jim Wells County
9 Day at the State Capitol and extend to its residents sincere best
10 wishes for a meaningful and memorable visit to Austin.