

By: Longoria

H.R. No. 563

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Many proud representatives from the La Joya  
2 Independent School District are gathering in Austin on February 27,  
3 2017, in celebration of La Joya ISD Day at the State Capitol; and

4           WHEREAS, A rapidly growing district, La Joya ISD includes 23  
5 elementary schools, 8 middle schools, and 6 high schools, as well as  
6 the College and Career Center, the Academy of Health Science  
7 Professions STEM, and two other academies; the administration has  
8 worked tirelessly to encourage more young people to pursue higher  
9 education, and to date, students in dual-enrollment courses have  
10 received more than 44,000 hours of college credit; in addition,  
11 students in career and technology programs have earned over 2,000  
12 certificates; and

13           WHEREAS, More than 94 percent of students graduate with a  
14 recommended or distinguished achievement diploma, and the  
15 four-year dropout rate is less than three percent; in the most  
16 recent year, the district received the "Met Standard" rating from  
17 the Texas Education Agency; it offers a well-rounded curriculum,  
18 and students have excelled in such areas as band competitions and  
19 the ExxonMobil Texas Science and Engineering Fair; and

20           WHEREAS, The district benefits greatly from the vision and  
21 expertise of superintendent Dr. Alda Benavides, who was named 2015  
22 Superintendent of the Year for Region 1 by the Texas Association of  
23 School Boards and was ranked among the top five superintendents in  
24 the state; under her leadership, La Joya ISD has invested

1 significantly in technology, science laboratory materials,  
2 employee and student wellness, and safety; moreover, the district  
3 added 10 new school buses; teachers, hourly employees, and  
4 administrators all received raises in consecutive years, yet  
5 property taxes were not increased; the district has received  
6 approval for a natatorium, a student resource center, and a new  
7 employee health clinic building; the school board was named Region  
8 1 School Board of the Year and was selected as a Top Five Honor  
9 Board; and

10 WHEREAS, The education of young Texans is a vital enterprise,  
11 and the La Joya Independent School District has demonstrated a  
12 strong commitment to providing a challenging and supportive  
13 learning environment to prepare its graduates for future success;  
14 now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
16 Legislature hereby recognize February 27, 2017, as La Joya ISD Day  
17 at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation sincere  
18 best wishes for an informative and enjoyable stay in Austin.