

By: Bernal

H.R. No. 648

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of the Alamo City are visiting
2 Austin on February 28, 2017, to celebrate VIVA San Antonio Day at
3 the State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, The history of San Antonio can be traced back to
5 1691, when a group of Spanish explorers and missionaries came upon a
6 river and named it San Antonio, in honor of Saint Anthony, whose
7 feast day was being celebrated; and

8 WHEREAS, The city was founded in 1718 by Father Antonio
9 Olivares; he established Mission San Antonio de Valero, which would
10 become etched in the annals of history in 1836 as the Alamo, the
11 site where 189 brave individuals held the mission for 13 days
12 against an army of some 4,000 Mexican soldiers; the cry "Remember
13 the Alamo" became the rallying point of the Texas Revolution;
14 today, the Alamo is a shrine and museum and is widely recognized as
15 the cradle of Texas liberty; and

16 WHEREAS, San Antonio became formally incorporated in 1837,
17 when the fledgling Republic of Texas granted the city a charter; the
18 community has since retained its sense of history and tradition
19 while carefully blending in cosmopolitan progress; it continues to
20 serve as a crossroads and a meeting place, where the rich cultural
21 influences of Native Americans, Old Mexico, German immigrants, the
22 Wild West, African Americans, and the Deep South mingle and merge;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, The city has a proud military heritage; great

1 military figures like Pershing, Stilwell, Krueger, LeMay,
2 Chennault, and Eisenhower served at San Antonio military
3 institutions, including Fort Sam Houston, the headquarters for the
4 U.S. Army North and U.S. Army South, and Randolph Air Force Base,
5 the home of Air Education and Training Command; in addition, San
6 Antonio is the site of Lackland Air Force Base, the largest training
7 wing in the United States Air Force, and the San Antonio Military
8 Health System, home of all U.S. military medical training; and

9 WHEREAS, Recent years have brought remarkable economic
10 development to San Antonio as its skilled workforce, excellent
11 institutions of public and higher education, and high quality of
12 life have attracted important corporate businesses and industries
13 to the city; and

14 WHEREAS, The city's chambers of commerce serve as leading
15 advocates for the business community and are dedicated to building
16 and sustaining San Antonio's diverse and prosperous economy,
17 particularly in the major local industries of health care,
18 manufacturing, aerospace, information technology, and
19 cybersecurity; and

20 WHEREAS, Millions of visitors a year delight in visiting San
21 Antonio; in addition to the Alamo, highlights include La Villita,
22 San Fernando Cathedral, the San Antonio Missions Trail, and the
23 famed Paseo del Rio, also known as The Riverwalk; among the other
24 attractions that make San Antonio one of the top tourist
25 destinations in the country are SeaWorld San Antonio and the Six
26 Flags Fiesta Texas theme park as well as the PGA Tour Valero Texas
27 Open, the Alamo Bowl, and the five-time world champion San Antonio

1 Spurs; and

2 WHEREAS, In April 2017, the city will once again celebrate
3 Fiesta San Antonio, the biggest 11-day party in the state; first
4 held more than 120 years ago, the event was founded by a group of
5 women who decorated horse-drawn carriages for a parade in front of
6 the Alamo and battled with flower blossoms instead of bullets to
7 honor the heroes of the Alamo and the Battle of San Jacinto; and

8 WHEREAS, San Antonio is truly one of the treasures of the Lone
9 Star State, and VIVA San Antonio Day provides a welcome opportunity
10 to honor the city and its many fine residents; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
12 Legislature hereby recognize February 28, 2017, as VIVA San Antonio
13 Day at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation
14 sincere best wishes for an informative and enjoyable stay in
15 Austin.