

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Presidio County are visiting
2 Austin on March 1, 2017, to celebrate Presidio County Day at the
3 State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, An area steeped in history and possessed of a
5 frontier mystique, Presidio County lies in the Trans-Pecos region
6 of Southwest Texas and is bordered by the Rio Grande and Mexico; its
7 desert terrain varies from rolling plains to canyons and volcanic
8 cliffs and rises to some of the state's tallest mountain ranges, as
9 well as to its highest waterfall, Capote Falls, with a drop of 175
10 feet; and

11 WHEREAS, Presidio County was established from parts of the
12 Bexar Land District on January 3, 1850, and organized a
13 quarter-century later; initially the largest county in the United
14 States at 12,000 square miles, it eventually relinquished land and
15 today holds the claim of fourth-largest county in the state at
16 nearly 3,860 square miles; its original county seat was Fort Davis,
17 which became part of Jeff Davis County, and the Presidio County
18 government relocated to Marfa two years after the town's founding
19 in 1883; and

20 WHEREAS, From the 1880s to the 1940s, silver mining was a
21 leading industry in Presidio County after a silver deposit was
22 found in the Chinati Mountains by local rancher and trader John W.
23 Spencer; his discovery led to the opening of Presidio Mine, which
24 would produce more than 32.6 million ounces of silver over the

1 course of its existence; and

2 WHEREAS, Today, the local economy is based primarily on
3 agriculture; in the southern portion of the county, the loamy soil
4 provides fertile ground for growing tomatoes, melons, onions,
5 grain, and cotton, while ranchers have traditionally raised sheep
6 and cattle, including the famed Highland Hereford, wherever there
7 is adequate pastureland; although no permanent streams exist in the
8 county, the completion of Elephant Butte Dam across the Rio Grande
9 in 1910 created a reliable supply of irrigation water, greatly
10 increasing farming production; and

11 WHEREAS, Presidio, with a population of nearly 4,000, is the
12 county's largest town and home to the Fort Leaton historic site, a
13 public museum containing ruins, exhibits, and nature trails; the
14 county seat of Marfa has some 1,700 people and boasts historical
15 attractions as well as an active local arts scene, including the
16 world-renowned Chinati Foundation; the town has become a popular
17 tourist draw for its vintage charm and art and for the mysterious
18 Marfa Lights, an atmospheric phenomenon first observed in the night
19 sky in 1883; and

20 WHEREAS, With its friendly people, majestic scenery, and
21 sundry intangible qualities, Presidio County is truly a treasure of
22 the Lone Star State, and it is indeed a pleasure to celebrate the
23 heritage and contributions of this storied region; now, therefore,
24 be it

25 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
26 Legislature hereby recognize March 1, 2017, as Presidio County Day
27 at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation sincere

H.R. No. 692

1 best wishes for an informative and enjoyable stay in Austin.

Nevárez

Straus	Goldman	Oliverson
Allen	Gonzales of Williamson	Ortega
Alonzo	González of El Paso	Paddie
Alvarado	Gooden	Parker
Anchia	Guerra	Paul
Anderson of Dallas	Guillen	Perez
Anderson of McLennan	Gutierrez	Phelan
Arévalo	Hefner	Phillips
Ashby	Hernandez	Pickett
Bailes	Herrero	Price
Bell	Hinojosa	Raney
Bernal	Holland	Raymond
Biedermann	Howard	Reynolds
Blanco	Huberty	Rinaldi
Bohac	Hunter	Roberts
Bonnen of Brazoria	Isaac	Rodriguez of Bexar
Bonnen of Galveston	Israel	Rodriguez of Travis
Burkett	Johnson of Dallas	Romero, Jr.
Burns	Johnson of Harris	Rose
Burrows	Kacal	Sanford
Button	Keough	Schaefer
Cain	King of Hemphill	Schofield
Canales	King of Parker	Schubert
Capriglione	King of Uvalde	Shaheen
Clardy	Klick	Sheffield
Coleman	Koop	Shine
Collier	Krause	Simmons
Cook	Kuempel	Smithee
Cortez	Lambert	Springer
Cosper	Landgraf	Stephenson
Craddick	Lang	Stickland
Cyrier	Larson	Stucky
Dale	Laubenberg	Swanson
Darby	Leach	Thierry
Davis of Dallas	Longoria	Thompson of Brazoria
Davis of Harris	Lozano	Thompson of Harris
Dean	Lucio III	Tinderholt
Deshotel	Martinez	Turner
Dukes	Metcalf	Uresti
Dutton	Meyer	VanDeaver
Elkins	Miller	Villalba
Faircloth	Minjarez	Vo
Fallon	Moody	Walle
Farrar	Morrison	White
Flynn	Muñoz, Jr.	Wilson
Frank	Murphy	Workman
Frullo	Murr	Wray
Geren	Neave	Wu
Gervin-Hawkins	Nevárez	Zedler
Giddings	Oliveira	Zerwas

H.R. No. 692

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 692 was adopted by the House on March 1, 2017, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House