

By: Lucio III

H.R. No. 726

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Harlingen and San Benito are
2 gathering in Austin on March 8, 2017, to celebrate Harlingen-San
3 Benito Day at the State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, From the time in 1904 when Lon C. Hill chose a site
5 alongside the St. Louis, Brownsville, and Mexico Railway as the
6 location for a new town, Harlingen was destined to become a
7 crossroads of commerce; transportation kept pace as the city
8 developed, and today residents and businesses benefit from its
9 proximity to the Free Trade International Bridge at Los Indios, and
10 the Port of Harlingen provides access to the Intracoastal Waterway;
11 additionally, the city's World War II airfield has developed into
12 the region's largest airport, Valley International; and

13 WHEREAS, The area's climate and abundant natural resources
14 have made Harlingen a popular destination for numerous travelers,
15 including winter Texans, birders, and outdoor enthusiasts;
16 attractions include the Iwo Jima memorial, the historic downtown
17 district, and a variety of parks and sports facilities; and

18 WHEREAS, Through the creation of an expansive irrigation
19 system and a significant network of railroads, the nearby city of
20 San Benito developed its early economy as a shipping center for
21 citrus and vegetables from the lower Rio Grande Valley; today, the
22 city enjoys easy access to the border, a robust industrial park, and
23 a growing tourist industry; and

24 WHEREAS, San Benito has helped to promote, preserve, and

1 support a number of important cultural institutions, and the city
2 is home to the Texas Conjunto Music Hall of Fame and Museum, the San
3 Benito History Museum, the Freddy Fender Museum, and the Narciso
4 Martinez Cultural Arts Center; and

5 WHEREAS, Harlingen and San Benito have become a regional
6 health care hub, with the Valley Baptist Health System, the
7 Harlingen Medical Center, and the Su Clinica Familiar; residents of
8 both cities also benefit from the educational opportunities
9 presented by Texas State Technical College and the Regional
10 Academic Health Center; and

11 WHEREAS, The people of Harlingen and San Benito may take
12 great pride in their achievements as they work together to build a
13 bright future, and it is indeed fitting to honor them for their
14 contributions to the story of the Lone Star State; now, therefore,
15 be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
17 Legislature hereby recognize March 8, 2017, as Harlingen-San Benito
18 Day at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation
19 sincere best wishes for an informative and enjoyable stay in
20 Austin.