

By: Guillen

H.R. No. 1197

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud members of the Perez family and residents of
2 Starr County are gathering on April 1, 2017, for the dedication of
3 an Official Texas Historical Marker at Rancho San Jose de la Mulada;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, This historic South Texas ranch dates back to
6 December 1787, when Don Pedro Jose Perez, an early settler,
7 purchased Porcion 74 from Pedro Lugo, who had been granted the land
8 by the king of Spain in 1767; and

9 WHEREAS, Although some families lost their land after the end
10 of the Mexican American War in 1848, Santiago Perez, the son of Don
11 Pedro, was able to retain possession of Porcion 74, and by the
12 1870s, the property had come to be known as Rancho San Jose de la
13 Mulada; at that time, it was home to more than 30 residents who
14 lived in five houses and looked after the ranch's sheep, goats,
15 mules, and horses; and

16 WHEREAS, In 1997, the ranch was featured along with other
17 historic Tejano ranches in an exhibit at the LBJ Presidential
18 Library in Austin, and in 2006, members of the Perez family donated
19 priceless family artifacts from the ranch to the Museum of South
20 Texas History; among the items were a saddle, a rifle, and a
21 revolver that had belonged to Deputy U.S. Marshal Casimiro Perez
22 Alvarez, who was the great-great-grandson of Don Pedro Jose Perez;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, The ranch continues to be owned by direct

1 descendants of its founder, and one of them, Araceli Perez-Davis,
2 who is Don Pedro's great-great-great-great-granddaughter, has
3 turned an old adobe cabin on the property into a museum; it was also
4 Ms. Perez-Davis who petitioned the Texas Historical Commission for
5 a state marker in 2014; and

6 WHEREAS, For 230 years, Rancho San Jose de la Mulada has
7 contributed to the rich heritage of Starr County, and the ranch's
8 special role in the history of South Texas is truly deserving of
9 this special recognition; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
11 Legislature hereby commemorate the dedication of an Official Texas
12 Historical Marker at Rancho San Jose de la Mulada and extend to the
13 Perez family and the members of the community sincere best wishes
14 for a meaningful and memorable event; and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
16 prepared for the Perez family as an expression of high regard by the
17 Texas House of Representatives.