

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 308

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, The city has a proud military heritage; great military figures like Pershing, Stilwell, Krueger, LeMay, Chennault, and Eisenhower served at San Antonio military institutions, including Fort Sam Houston, the headquarters for the United States Army North and United States Army South, and Randolph Air Force Base, the home of Air Education and Training Command; in addition, San Antonio is the site of Lackland Air Force Base, the largest training wing in the United States Air Force, and the San Antonio Military Health System, home of all United States military medical training; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

Menéndez, Campbell, Uresti, Zaffirini

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 28, 2017.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate

Member, Texas Senate

Member, Texas Senate

Member, Texas Senate