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By:  Lozano H.R. No. 78

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Proud residents of Bee County are gathering at the State Capitol to celebrate Bee County Day on March 13, 2019; and

WHEREAS, While artifacts indicate that the region was originally inhabited 6,000 to 10,000 years ago, the first permanent European settlers arrived in the early 19th century, and 11 area landowners were among the signers of the Texas Declaration of Independence; and

WHEREAS, Bee County was officially organized on January 25, 1858, and named for Barnard E. Bee Sr., a South Carolina attorney, soldier, and statesman who joined the Army of the Republic of Texas and later served as secretary of war under Sam Houston; and

WHEREAS, Located in the South Texas Plains vegetation region, the county covers 866 square miles that slope gently toward the Gulf Coast, and with open expanses of grasslands, its economy is dominated by farming, ranching, and agribusiness, along with oil and gas operations; Beeville is the county seat, and other towns in the county include Skidmore, Blue Berry Hill, Pettus, Tuleta, Tynan, Pawnee, Normanna, and Mineral; and

WHEREAS, Bee County citizens can take pride in an array of attractions for residents and visitors to explore; Beeville has successfully revitalized its downtown district and has been named a Texas Main Street City by the Texas Historical Commission; Coastal Bend College-Beeville offers occupational as well as academic classes for its students, and it has the oldest academic educational glassblowing facility in the state; the Beeville Art Museum, which is funded by the Joe Barnhart Foundation, is housed in the beautiful and historic Esther Barnhart House; in addition, visitors come from all across Texas to celebrate the state's rich traditions at Western Week; and

WHEREAS, Residents of Bee County are working together to build a brighter future, and this special day provides a fitting opportunity to pay tribute to the county and its people; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby recognize March 13, 2019, as Bee County Day at the State Capitol and extend to those visiting today sincere best wishes for an informative and enjoyable stay in Austin.