

By: Lozano

H.R. No. 76

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Residents of San Patricio County are gathering in
2 Austin on March 6, 2019, to celebrate San Patricio County Day at the
3 State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, Situated on the broad coastal plain along the Gulf
5 of Mexico, this region was originally inhabited by the Karankawa
6 Indians; in 1829, 200 Irish families from New York formed a colony
7 under a contract with the government of Mexico and founded the town
8 of San Patricio de Hibernia, after Saint Patrick, the patron saint
9 of Ireland; the town was the site of a battle during the Texas
10 Revolution in 1836, and later that same year, San Patricio County
11 was created by the new Republic of Texas; and

12 WHEREAS, By 1860, San Patricio County was occupied by
13 ranchers and farmers, and during the Civil War, a Confederate fort
14 was built at Aransas Pass to deal with smugglers, rustlers, and
15 Federal raiders; the county's economy was boosted in 1885 when the
16 San Antonio and Aransas Pass Railway was extended to Aransas
17 Harbor; the town of Sinton, named after an Ohio banker who had
18 invested in the area's development, was designated as the county
19 seat in 1893; and

20 WHEREAS, Oil and gas were discovered in the county in the
21 early 20th century, and the petroleum industry and agriculture
22 continue to be the foundation of the economy; cotton, sorghum, and
23 cattle are all major products, along with shrimp from the
24 commercial fisheries along the coast; the deepwater port at Aransas

1 Pass is easily accessible to northern markets by rail, highway, and
2 the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway; and

3 WHEREAS, Today, the people of San Patricio County enjoy a
4 relaxed rural lifestyle while taking advantage of their proximity
5 to the urban amenities of Corpus Christi; hunters, birders,
6 kayakers, snorkelers, and devotees of sport fishing travel to the
7 county for its many opportunities for recreation; the county is
8 also home to the Welder Wildlife Refuge, one of the largest
9 privately endowed refuges in the world; and

10 WHEREAS, Celebrating their colorful past even as they work to
11 build a bright future, those Texans who call San Patricio County
12 home may indeed take great pride in the important role their unique
13 region plays in the story of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be
14 it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
16 Legislature hereby recognize March 6, 2019, as San Patricio County
17 Day at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation
18 sincere best wishes for a meaningful and memorable stay in Austin.