

By: Lozano

H.R. No. 79

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Residents of Jim Wells County are assembling at the
2 State Capitol on February 19, 2019, to celebrate the importance of
3 their home to the history of the State of Texas; and

4 WHEREAS, A landscape of sweeping grasslands and wide
5 horizons, the county's early inhabitants enjoyed the region's mild
6 winters and abundant game; after the first European settlement in
7 1754, at Penitas Creek, Mexican ranchers developed land grants into
8 sheep and cattle ranches; in 1848 the region became part of the
9 State of Texas, and it was formally incorporated as a county in 1911
10 and named after the prominent developer and attorney James B. Wells
11 Jr.; and

12 WHEREAS, With the arrival of the railroad in the 1870s, Alice
13 became the most important livestock shipment junction in South
14 Texas, and ranching has remained a mainstay of the county's economy
15 ever since; cotton and sorghum are important crops, as are hay,
16 corn, and wheat; since the discovery of oil in the area in 1931, the
17 county has become one of the state's leaders in oil production; and

18 WHEREAS, Notable communities in Jim Wells County include
19 Orange Grove, Ben Bolt-Palito Blanco, Premont, Sandia, and La
20 Gloria; the county seat, Alice is a center for health care, with an
21 outstanding medical facility, the CHRISTUS Spohn Hospital Alice;
22 the Tejano R.O.O.T.S. Hall of Fame in Alice honors Tejano culture
23 and recognizes the region as the birthplace of this popular musical
24 genre; area culture is further showcased at the South Texas Museum,

1 housed in the historic McGill Brothers Building, and the annual
2 Fiesta Bandana, celebrating Cinco de Mayo, is a highlight of the
3 county's cultural calendar; and

4 WHEREAS, Celebrating their vibrant heritage as they embrace
5 the opportunities of the future, the citizens of Jim Wells County
6 are building on a long tradition of industry, achievement, and
7 public spirit, and they are indeed deserving of special
8 recognition; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
10 Legislature hereby recognize February 19, 2019, as Jim Wells County
11 Day at the State Capitol and extend to its residents sincere best
12 wishes for a meaningful and memorable visit to Austin.