

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, A distinguished delegation from South Texas is  
2 visiting Austin on February 5, 2019, to celebrate Rio Grande Valley  
3 Day at the State Capitol; and

4           WHEREAS, Enjoying a strategic location on the Gulf of Mexico  
5 and along the Mexican border, the Rio Grande Valley was an important  
6 ranching region when Texas became the nation's 28th state in 1845;  
7 over time, the economy shifted from ranching to agriculture, and  
8 the Valley became the state's center of citrus and vegetable  
9 production; and

10           WHEREAS, In the 1960s, industry flourished and international  
11 trade became increasingly prominent; the region has contributed  
12 significantly to the tremendous increase in commerce across the  
13 United States-Mexico border, with more than 946,000 trucks, 11.7  
14 million cars carrying 24.3 million passengers, 28,000 buses  
15 carrying over 300,000 passengers, and 6.2 million pedestrians  
16 crossing Rio Grande Valley ports of entry and averaging more than  
17 \$140 million in goods and services per day, with over \$51 billion  
18 in commercial trade per year flowing across 13 land ports of entry;  
19 the Rio Grande Valley is an economic powerhouse for the State of  
20 Texas with approximately \$12.5 billion in taxable sales recorded in  
21 reporting year 2018; and

22           WHEREAS, The Valley has over 1.5 million residents, with  
23 approximately 600,000 individuals under the age of 25, and local  
24 and state officials have focused on the need to expand access to

1 higher education and health care, strengthen the workforce,  
2 increase transportation and ports of entry infrastructure, and  
3 increase funding for public education; The University of Texas Rio  
4 Grande Valley serves over 28,600 students; the UTRGV School of  
5 Medicine is in its third year of operation with 155 medical students  
6 and 169 medical residents in 10 GME programs and over 20 patient  
7 care sites; and

8         WHEREAS, The Texas A&M University System recently opened its  
9 McAllen Higher Education Center, which will be linked to the campus  
10 in College Station and will offer programs in engineering,  
11 technology, biomedical sciences, agriculture, and laboratory  
12 sciences; and

13         WHEREAS, The six higher education institutions in the Rio  
14 Grande Valley, The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Texas A&M  
15 University McAllen Higher Education Center, Texas A&M University  
16 Health Science Center, South Texas College, Texas Southmost  
17 College, and Texas State Technical College, serve a student  
18 population of over 70,000; and

19         WHEREAS, Major sponsors for the day's legislative event  
20 include The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Texas A&M  
21 University, Texas Southmost College, the City of McAllen, the City  
22 of Edinburg, the City of Weslaco, the City of Pharr, the City of  
23 Brownsville, the Port of Brownsville, the Lower Rio Grande Valley  
24 Development Council, the Starr County Industrial Foundation,  
25 Willacy County, and the Rio Grande Valley Partnership, as well as  
26 several private sector businesses, such as Pathfinder Public  
27 Affairs, Atlas, Hall & Rodriguez, LLP, IBC Bank, Texas Gas Service,

1 Uber, and The Coca-Cola Company, all of which are promoting greater  
2 regional cooperation in the 21st century; and

3 WHEREAS, A vibrant region with a rich heritage, the Rio  
4 Grande Valley is poised to take advantage of tremendous  
5 opportunities for continued economic development, and it is indeed  
6 most fitting to honor Valley residents for their dedication to  
7 building a bright and prosperous future for the area; now,  
8 therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas  
10 Legislature hereby recognize February 5, 2019, as Rio Grande Valley  
11 Day at the State Capitol and extend to all participants sincere best  
12 wishes for a productive and enjoyable visit.

Martinez

Bonnen of Brazoria	Guerra	Oliverson
Allen	Guillen	Ortega
Allison	Gutierrez	Pacheco
Anchia	Harless	Paddie
Anderson	Harris	Parker
Ashby	Hefner	Patterson
Bailes	Hernandez	Paul
Beckley	Herrero	Perez
Bell of Kaufman	Hinojosa	Phelan
Bell of Montgomery	Holland	Price
Bernal	Howard	Ramos
Biedermann	Huberty	Raney
Blanco	Hunter	Raymond
Bohac	Israel	Reynolds
Bonnen of Galveston	E. Johnson of Dallas	Rodriguez
Bowers	J. Johnson of Dallas	Romero, Jr.
Buckley	Johnson of Harris	Rose
Bucy	Kacal	Rosenthal
Burns	King of Hemphill	Sanford
Burrows	King of Parker	Schaefer
Button	King of Uvalde	Shaheen
Cain	Klick	Sheffield
Calanni	Krause	Sherman, Sr.
Canales	Kuempel	Shine
Capriglione	Lambert	Smith
Clardy	Landgraf	Smithee
Cole	Lang	Springer
Coleman	Larson	Stephenson
Collier	Leach	Stickland
Cortez	Leman	Stucky
Craddick	Longoria	Swanson
Cyrrier	Lozano	Talarico
Darby	Lucio III	Thierry
Davis of Dallas	Martinez	Thompson of Brazoria
Davis of Harris	Martinez Fischer	Thompson of Harris
Dean	Metcalf	Tinderholt
Deshotel	Meyer	Toth
Dominguez	Meza	Turner of Dallas
Dutton	Middleton	Turner of Tarrant
Farrar	Miller	VanDeaver
Flynn	Minjarez	Vo
Frank	Moody	Walle
Frullo	Morrison	White
Geren	Muñoz, Jr.	Wilson
Gervin-Hawkins	Murphy	Wray
Goldman	Murr	Wu
González of Dallas	Neave	Zedler
González of El Paso	Nevárez	Zerwas
Goodwin	Noble	Zwiener

H.R. No. 187

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 187 was adopted by the House on February 5, 2019, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House