

By: Nevárez

H.R. No. 281

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Residents of Del Rio and Val Verde County are
2 gathering in Austin to celebrate Val Verde County-Del Rio Day at the
3 State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, The brushlands along the Rio Grande were first
5 inhabited more than 6,000 years ago by native peoples whose cave
6 paintings are still visible; the community of San Felipe Del Rio was
7 established in 1868, and Val Verde County was organized in 1885;
8 that same year, the colorful Judge Roy Bean was elected justice of
9 the peace in Langtry, where he became known as "the Law West of the
10 Pecos," making his distinctive rulings from the Jersey Lilly
11 Saloon; and

12 WHEREAS, County seat Del Rio today is a cultural center for
13 the area; it is home to campuses of Southwest Texas Junior College
14 and Sul Ross State University, as well as to the Upstagers, a
15 community theater in operation since 1977; and

16 WHEREAS, Since its earliest days, Val Verde County has been a
17 center for sheep and goat ranching, and the wool and mohair
18 industries continue to be central to its economy; other important
19 employers include Laughlin Air Force Base, the U.S. Border Patrol,
20 and the National Park Service; and

21 WHEREAS, Tourism and trade with Mexico are also part of the
22 life of the county; opportunities for boating, fishing, birding,
23 and hiking are found at the Amistad National Recreation Area, and
24 the Whitehead Memorial Museum in Del Rio and the Judge Roy Bean

1 Visitor Center in Langtry attract visitors interested in the
2 heritage of the county's frontier days; and

3 WHEREAS, Celebrating their rich history as they work to build
4 an even brighter future, the people of Val Verde County may take
5 great pride in the important role their unique region continues to
6 play in the story of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
8 Legislature hereby recognize Val Verde County-Del Rio Day at the
9 State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation sincere best
10 wishes for an informative and enjoyable stay in Austin.