

By: Nevárez

H.R. No. 619

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Citizens of Reeves County are celebrating Reeves
2 County Day at the State Capitol; and

3 WHEREAS, Habitation of Reeves County began in prehistoric
4 times, with the earliest residents dwelling in rock shelters and
5 caves in the Barrilla Hills, where artifacts and pictographs
6 provide clues to their way of life; by the time Spanish explorer
7 Antonio de Espejo visited the region in 1583, the Jumano Indians had
8 established irrigated crops of corn and peaches, and farmers of
9 Mexican descent later prospered in the fertile Madera Valley; the
10 first Anglo farmers settled in Toyah Valley in the early 1870s; and

11 WHEREAS, In 1881, the area witnessed the opening of a new
12 chapter in its history with the arrival of the Texas and Pacific
13 Railway, and the county was organized three years later; Pecos, the
14 county seat, attracted colorful characters as a crossroads for both
15 cattle trails and railroads, and its frontier days saw several
16 infamous gunfights; a roping and riding competition staged on the
17 Fourth of July in 1883 launched what is now the West of the Pecos
18 Rodeo, which marked its 135th anniversary in June 2018; and

19 WHEREAS, Ranching and farming remain critical components of
20 the Reeves County economy; the alkaline soil and optimal growing
21 conditions produce the Pecos cantaloupe, known nationwide for its
22 sweet flavor, as well as cotton, pecans, pistachios, and other
23 crops; oil and natural gas represent another aspect of the economy,
24 while tourists are drawn by the scenery, including such spots as the

1 spring-fed pool at Balmorhea State Park, and by the West of the
2 Pecos Museum, which offers the unique opportunity to explore the
3 rooms of a historic hotel and saloon; and

4 WHEREAS, Rich in Western heritage and natural beauty, Reeves
5 County can boast of many distinctive features, and its citizens may
6 take justifiable pride in the important role their unique region
7 continues to play in the story of the Lone Star State; now,
8 therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
10 Legislature hereby recognize Reeves County Day at the State Capitol
11 and extend to the visiting delegation sincere best wishes for an
12 informative and enjoyable stay in Austin.