

R E S O L U T I O N

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

4 WHEREAS, From the time in 1904 when Lon C. Hill chose a site
5 alongside the St. Louis, Brownsville, and Mexico Railway as the
6 location for a new town, Harlingen was destined to become a
7 crossroads of commerce; transportation kept pace as the city
8 developed, and today residents and businesses benefit from its
9 proximity to the Free Trade International Bridge at Los Indios, and
10 the Port of Harlingen provides access to the Intracoastal Waterway;
11 additionally, the city's World War II airfield has developed into
12 the region's largest airport, Valley International; and

13 WHEREAS, The Harlingen Area Chamber of Commerce has served
14 the city since the chamber's formation in 1919; a century later, it
15 is composed of 915 active members and maintains a serious
16 commitment to attaining the goals of the organization and leading
17 business activities in the community; and

18 WHEREAS, The area's climate and abundant natural resources
19 have made Harlingen a popular destination for numerous travelers,
20 including winter Texans, birders, and outdoor enthusiasts;
21 attractions include the Iwo Jima memorial, the historic downtown
22 district, and a variety of parks and sports facilities; and

23 WHEREAS, Through the creation of an expansive irrigation
24 system and a significant network of railroads, the nearby city of

1 San Benito developed its early economy as a shipping center for
2 citrus and vegetables from the lower Rio Grande Valley; today, the
3 city enjoys easy access to the border, a robust industrial park, and
4 a growing tourist industry; and

5 WHEREAS, San Benito has helped to promote, preserve, and
6 support a number of important cultural institutions, and the city
7 is home to the Texas Conjunto Music Hall of Fame and Museum, the San
8 Benito History Museum, the Freddy Fender Museum, and the Narciso
9 Martinez Cultural Arts Center; and

10 WHEREAS, Harlingen and San Benito have become a regional
11 health care hub, with the Valley Baptist Health System, the
12 Harlingen Medical Center, and the Su Clinica Familiar; residents of
13 both cities also benefit from the educational opportunities
14 presented by Texas State Technical College and the Regional
15 Academic Health Center; and

16 WHEREAS, The people of Harlingen and San Benito may take
17 great pride in their achievements as they work together to build a
18 bright future, and it is indeed fitting to honor them for their
19 contributions to the story of the Lone Star State; now, therefore,
20 be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
22 Legislature hereby recognize March 6, 2019, as Harlingen-San Benito
23 Day at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation
24 sincere best wishes for an informative and enjoyable stay in
25 Austin.

Lucio III

H.R. No. 639

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 639 was adopted by the House on March 6, 2019, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House