

By: Hunter

H.R. No. 885

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Residents of Port Aransas are gathering in Austin on  
2 March 19, 2019, to celebrate Port Aransas Day at the State Capitol;  
3 and

4           WHEREAS, In the early 1800s, Mustang Island was frequented by  
5 the famed buccaneer Jean Lafitte, and in 1855, an English sheep and  
6 cattle rancher named Robert A. Mercer built a cabin on the island; a  
7 community developed around the site, and the first post office was  
8 established in 1888 and called Ropesville; eight years later it was  
9 renamed Tarpon to highlight the island's fine fishing, and in 1911,  
10 the town was officially designated as Port Aransas; and

11           WHEREAS, Since World War II, the city has become one of the  
12 most popular resort destinations on the Texas Gulf Coast, and the  
13 superb beaches draw campers, swimmers, and surfers from across the  
14 Lone Star State; the town's launching ramps, lighted piers, and  
15 jetties enable anglers to catch a wide variety of fish, including  
16 red snapper, shark, sand trout, tuna, and bonito; and

17           WHEREAS, Port Aransas is one of the top bird-watching  
18 locations in the country, and many areas afford fine opportunities  
19 to view local species such as herons and roseate spoonbills as well  
20 as the annual migrations of hummingbirds, flycatchers, and orioles;  
21 additionally, visitors may delight in the town's art galleries,  
22 shops, restaurants, and locations of historical interest; and

23           WHEREAS, Blessed with natural beauty and a colorful history,  
24 Port Aransas is one of the Lone Star State's great treasures, and

1 its citizens may indeed take pride in their rich heritage and  
2 ongoing achievements; now, therefore, be it

3       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas  
4 Legislature hereby recognize March 19, 2019, as Port Aransas Day at  
5 the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation sincere  
6 best wishes for a meaningful and memorable stay in Austin.