By: Rodriguez H.R. No. 1127

RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The city of Austin celebrated the 50th anniversary 2 of its sister city relationship with Saltillo, Coahuila, Mexico, in November 2018, and is further commemorating the cities' partnership 3 with "Saltillo Day in Austin" on April 6, 2019; and 4 5 WHEREAS, Promoting mutually advantageous connections, the sister city alliance stems from the Sister Cities International 6 7 initiative created in 1956 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower; the program advances peace and prosperity through cultural, 8 9 educational, humanitarian, and economic development efforts; and 10

WHEREAS, Saltillo, the capital of the state of Coahuila, in northeastern Mexico, was one of the first of Austin's sister cities; the pair's status as sister cities was established in 1968 as an outgrowth of policies enacted by the Texas Good Neighbor Commission, and over the past five decades, the cities have exemplified the spirit of friendship, cooperation, and reciprocity

16 that is at the core of the program's mission; and WHEREAS, Since the 1980s, delegations from both cities have 17 made annual exchange visits to discuss such issues as education, 18 culture, economic development, and municipal services, with an 19 20 emphasis on sharing resources and working mutually to meet one 21 another's needs; these visits have evolved into the cross-border observances of "Austin Day in Saltillo" and "Saltillo Day in 22 23 Austin," occasions that have helped generate more opportunities for residents in each community to learn about the culture, businesses, 24

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- 1 food, customs, and people of their sister city; and
- WHEREAS, For half a century, the special bond enjoyed by the
- 3 cities of Austin and Saltillo has provided myriad benefits to their
- 4 citizens, and it is a pleasure to join in celebrating the longevity
- 5 of this unique and vibrant partnership; now, therefore, be it
- 6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
- 7 Legislature hereby commemorate the 50th anniversary of the sister
- 8 city relationship between Austin and Saltillo and extend to all
- 9 those associated with the program best wishes for a memorable
- 10 "Saltillo Day in Austin."