

By: Herrero

H.R. No. 1148

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Many proud residents of Nueces County are visiting
2 Austin on April 8, 2019, in celebration of Nueces County Day at the
3 State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, Located on the Gulf of Mexico in the Coastal
5 Prairies region, the county has been the site of human habitation
6 for as long as 8,000 years, and during historic times, the Coastal
7 Bend area was occupied by the Coahuilteicans, Karankawas, Lipan
8 Apaches, and Tonkawas; the first European visitors were likely led
9 by Alonzo Álvarez de Pineda, who reportedly reached Corpus Christi
10 Bay on the feast of Corpus Christi in 1519; well over two centuries
11 later, early settlers came from Spain, Mexico, Ireland, and
12 Germany, but even after the formation of Nueces County and the
13 incorporation of Corpus Christi in 1846, the permanent population
14 remained small; ranching was the mainstay of the local economy in
15 late antebellum Texas; and

16 WHEREAS, Corpus Christi became an important center for
17 commerce during the early Civil War years, and the 1870s were boom
18 years for the cattle industry; in the late 19th and early 20th
19 centuries, the population began to grow significantly, centered in
20 and around Corpus Christi; fertile soil and a favorable growing
21 climate allowed cash-crop agriculture to flourish, and by 1930,
22 Nueces County was a leader in cotton production; oil and natural gas
23 further strengthened the economy, and in 1941, the U.S. Navy
24 established an air station at Corpus Christi; by the end of the

1 century, the diverse industrial base included tourism,
2 agribusiness, construction, oil and gas field services, meat
3 packing, soft-drink packaging, zinc refining, dairy production,
4 and ship building and repairing; and

5 WHEREAS, Today, the county population is approaching
6 400,000, with the majority residing in Corpus Christi, Robstown,
7 and Port Aransas; visitors from across the state and beyond flock to
8 such attractions as the Padre Island National Seashore, Mustang
9 Island State Park, and the Texas State Aquarium; agriculture and
10 deepwater port activity continue to contribute significantly to the
11 economy, while mineral production encompasses sand and gravel, as
12 well as oil and gas; and

13 WHEREAS, Even as they celebrate their rich heritage, the
14 hardworking citizens of Nueces County are looking ahead to the
15 opportunities of the future and continuing to contribute to the
16 growth and prosperity of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
18 Legislature hereby recognize April 8, 2019, as Nueces County Day at
19 the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation best wishes
20 for a memorable and enjoyable stay in Austin.