

By: Martinez

H.R. No. 1507

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Pioneering Texan Elder B. Barton fought bravely for
2 freedom during the Texas Revolution and contributed to the growth
3 of Hidalgo County; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in New York City in 1806, Elder Barton joined
5 the Texian Army on March 13, 1836, and served in Captain Robert
6 J. Calder's Brazoria Company at the Battle of San Jacinto on April
7 21, 1836; on this day, the Texian Army under General Sam Houston
8 decisively defeated the Mexican troops commanded by General Antonio
9 López de Santa Anna in an engagement that lasted just 18 minutes;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, In October of 1836, Mr. Barton was honorably
12 discharged, and he moved to Matamoros, Tamaulipas, Mexico, where he
13 married Santitos Balli, with whom he had 16 children; the couple
14 lived in several towns in the Rio Grande Valley, including
15 Brownsville, Santa Rosa, and Los Indios, before settling in Nueces
16 County, where Mr. Barton received 369 acres as compensation for his
17 military service; and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Barton became an important figure in the
19 economic development of Hidalgo County; he served as postmaster,
20 worked in the steamboat industry, and utilized his military
21 experience to help secure the United States border along the Rio
22 Grande; he died on his ranch on August 4, 1884, and was buried in the
23 courtyard of the Hidalgo County Courthouse, where his son
24 Washington Barton served as county commissioner; and

1 WHEREAS, After the courthouse burned down, Mr. Barton's
2 remains were reinterred in the Hidalgo City Cemetery, and in 2016,
3 the Texas Historical Commission placed a state historical marker
4 there in his honor; and

5 WHEREAS, Elder Barton fought courageously in the struggle for
6 Texas independence, and the legacy he left behind will be
7 remembered for years to come; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
9 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life and achievements of
10 Elder B. Barton and commemorate his contributions to the history
11 and heritage of Texas.