

By: Lozano

H.R. No. 63

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Residents of Jim Wells County are gathering at the
2 State Capitol on March 6, 2025; and

3 WHEREAS, A landscape of sweeping grasslands and wide
4 horizons, the county's early inhabitants enjoyed the region's mild
5 winters and abundant game; after the first European settlement in
6 1754, at Penitas Creek, Mexican ranchers developed land grants into
7 sheep and cattle ranches; in 1848, the region became part of the
8 State of Texas, and it was formally incorporated as a county in 1911
9 and named after the prominent developer and attorney James B. Wells
10 Jr.; and

11 WHEREAS, With the arrival of the railroad in the 1870s, Alice
12 became the most important livestock shipment junction in South
13 Texas, and ranching has remained a mainstay of the county's economy
14 ever since; cotton and sorghum are key crops, as are hay, corn, and
15 wheat; since the discovery of oil in the area in 1931, mining,
16 quarrying, and oil and gas extraction have emerged as the leading
17 occupations of local residents; and

18 WHEREAS, Notable communities in Jim Wells County include
19 Orange Grove, Ben Bolt, Palito Blanco, Premont, Sandia, and
20 La Gloria; the county seat, Alice, is a center for health care, with
21 an outstanding medical facility, the CHRISTUS Spohn Hospital Alice;
22 the Tejano R.O.O.T.S. Hall of Fame in Alice honors Tejano culture
23 and recognizes the region as the birthplace of this popular musical
24 genre; the area's distinctive history is showcased at the South

1 Texas Museum, housed in the 1940s McGill Brothers Building; and

2 WHEREAS, Jim Wells County benefits from the dedicated
3 leadership of its elected officials, including county judge Pedro
4 "Pete" Trevino Jr. and county commissioners George Aguilar, Ventura
5 Garcia Jr., Renee Kirchoff Chapa, and Wicho Gonzalez; and

6 WHEREAS, Celebrating their vibrant heritage as they embrace
7 the opportunities of the future, the citizens of Jim Wells County
8 are building on a long tradition of industry, achievement, and
9 public spirit, and they are indeed deserving of special
10 recognition; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas
12 Legislature hereby recognize March 6, 2025, as Jim Wells County Day
13 at the State Capitol and extend a warm welcome to the visiting
14 delegation.