

By: Martinez

H.R. No. 361

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Weslaco are gathering in Austin
2 on February 26, 2025, to celebrate Weslaco Day at the State Capitol;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Located in the heart of the Rio Grande Valley, the
5 city of Weslaco's site was part of the Llano Grande grant of 1790;
6 after the St. Louis, Brownsville and Mexico Railway came to the
7 area, the American Rio Grande Land and Irrigation Company purchased
8 a major portion of the grant and platted the West Tract in 1913, and
9 four years later, the company sold 30,000 acres to the W. E. Stewart
10 Land Company, from which the name Weslaco is derived; officially
11 founded in 1919, the town soon had a post office, schools, a bank,
12 and a fire department, and by 1930, the population had reached
13 5,300; throughout the 20th century, the city was centered around
14 manufacturing and agriculture, with facilities that housed migrant
15 farmworkers and laboratories where new cultivars of produce were
16 created; and

17 WHEREAS, Today, Weslaco is home to more than 42,000
18 residents, and its economy benefits from the educational services,
19 health care, retail, agricultural, and tourism industries; among
20 its educational institutions are the Texas A&M AgriLife Research
21 and Extension Center at Weslaco and the TAMU-Kingsville Citrus
22 Center, which are both hubs for innovative research that enhances
23 agricultural productivity and sustainability; and

24 WHEREAS, Residents and visitors alike can enjoy the area's

1 natural beauty at Estero Llano Grande State Park, the Valley Nature
2 Center, and Frontera Audubon; the city also hosts a number of annual
3 events, including the Mid-Valley Lighted Christmas Parade and the
4 Weslaco Holiday Lights Display, and the Texas Onion Festival
5 celebrates the 1015 sweet onion, which was created in Weslaco and is
6 the State Vegetable of Texas; and

7 WHEREAS, Boasting a rich history, thriving educational and
8 cultural institutions, and a dynamic business community, Weslaco
9 has established itself as an outstanding place to live and work, and
10 its citizens may indeed take pride in the place they call home; now,
11 therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas
13 Legislature hereby recognize February 26, 2025, as Weslaco Day at
14 the State Capitol and extend a warm welcome to the visiting
15 delegation.