

By: Bhojani

H.R. No. 600

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Members of the Pakistani American community are  
2 gathering in Austin on March 20, 2023, for Pakistan Day of Action at  
3 the State Capitol; and

4           WHEREAS, Located in the northwest region of the Indo-Pak  
5 subcontinent, Pakistan encompasses the Indus Valley and other areas  
6 near the Indus River, which were home to some of the world's  
7 earliest civilizations; emigration from the region dates as far  
8 back as 3,000 B.C.; Pakistan became an independent country in 1947,  
9 and Pakistani emigrants have made invaluable contributions to  
10 countries around the globe; and

11           WHEREAS, Pakistan and the United States have shared seven and  
12 a half decades of diplomatic relations, which have included such  
13 events as Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson's 1961 visit to  
14 Pakistan, President Mohammad Ayub Khan's 1961 State visit to the  
15 U.S., during which he addressed a joint session of the Texas  
16 Legislature as well as a joint meeting of Congress, President  
17 Lyndon B. Johnson's 1967 visit to Pakistan, President Muhammed Zia  
18 ul-Haq's 1982 State visit to the U.S., during which he visited  
19 Houston, and President George W. Bush's 2006 visit to Pakistan;  
20 highlighting Pakistani, American and Texan hospitality, the visits  
21 were momentous occasions in the history of U.S. and Pakistan  
22 relations; and

23           WHEREAS, Today, more than 600,000 Pakistani Americans reside  
24 in the U.S., and Texas is home to over 87,000 individuals of

1 Pakistani heritage, with large populations of Pakistani Texans  
2 residing in the state's major metropolitan areas, including Austin,  
3 Dallas-Fort Worth, Houston, and San Antonio; and

4 WHEREAS, The U.S. is Pakistan's largest trading partner, and  
5 Texas makes up the fourth-largest portion of that bilateral trade;  
6 Texas and Pakistan benefit from a number of mutual exchanges,  
7 including the ATX+PAK Entrepreneurship program and the  
8 U.S.-Pakistan Women's Council Future of Women in Energy Scholars  
9 program; moreover, partnerships between The University of Texas at  
10 Austin and several universities in Pakistan, such as the National  
11 College of Art in Lahore, the University of Karachi, the National  
12 Academy of Performing Arts in Karachi, and the Fatima Jinnah Women  
13 University in Islamabad, have resulted in faculty and student  
14 exchanges in the fields of film studies, music, performing arts,  
15 and social sciences; and

16 WHEREAS, Pakistan has one of the world's youngest  
17 populations, with about 63 percent of the nation's citizens being  
18 between the ages of 15 and 33; Texas businesses can utilize the  
19 country's highly skilled young professionals to advance the state's  
20 economy, particularly in the information technology and biotech  
21 industries; and

22 WHEREAS, Members of the Pakistani American community  
23 contribute to the vibrancy and prosperity of the Lone Star State in  
24 myriad ways, and the participants in this advocacy day are  
25 demonstrating their commitment to making an even more positive  
26 impact through active civic engagement; now, therefore, be it

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas

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1 Legislature hereby recognize Pakistan Day of Action at the State  
2 Capitol on March 20, 2023, and extend a warm welcome to the Consul  
3 General of Pakistan, the Pakistani American Collaborative of Texas,  
4 the Pakistani Society of North Texas, the Pakistani Association of  
5 Greater Houston, and the other members of the visiting delegation.