

By: Vasut

H.R. No. 2244

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Serving as an important prelude to the Texas  
2 Revolution, the Battle of Velasco was fought from June 25 through  
3 27, 1832, and the site of the engagement is being commemorated with  
4 the dedication of a memorial monument on June 27, 2023; and

5           WHEREAS, The conflict was perhaps the first incidence of  
6 bloodshed as resistance to Mexican rule intensified in Texas in the  
7 1830s; the battle took place when a group of Texans under the  
8 command of Henry Smith and John Austin traveled to Brazoria to  
9 secure a cannon to use against Mexican forces who had imprisoned  
10 William Travis and others at Anahuac; when they tried to transport  
11 the cannon down the Brazos River, they were opposed by a garrison of  
12 Mexican soldiers led by Colonel Domingo de Ugartechea, commander of  
13 Fort Velasco; and

14           WHEREAS, An estimated seven Texans and five Mexicans lost  
15 their lives in the fighting, with dozens more wounded on both sides;  
16 ultimately, the Texans forced Colonel Ugartechea to surrender on  
17 June 29, after his troops exhausted their ammunition; and

18           WHEREAS, While records indicate that veterans of the Battle  
19 of Velasco developed plans to erect a memorial for their fallen  
20 comrades, no evidence for the existence of such a monument has ever  
21 been found; recent imaging of the area has helped identify the exact  
22 location of Fort Velasco, and renewed interest in the battle led to  
23 a collaboration between the Old Fort Velasco Historical  
24 Association, the Old Velasco/Surfside Beach Historical Committee,

1 the Village of Surfside Beach, Bryson Memorials, and area citizens;  
2 working together, they have succeeded in their mission to establish  
3 a long-overdue tribute to those who served and died in the battle;  
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Today, 191 years after the Battle of Velasco, the  
6 unveiling of the monument provides an opportunity to reflect on a  
7 pivotal moment in Texas history and on the courageous actions of  
8 those who took up arms to further the cause of Texas independence;  
9 now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas  
11 Legislature hereby commemorate the dedication of the Battle of  
12 Velasco Memorial Monument and extend sincere appreciation to all  
13 those who helped bring this project to fruition.