

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 167

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to honor the City of Baytown on the occasion of its 75th anniversary of incorporation, which was celebrated on January 21, 2023; and

WHEREAS, In 1822, Nathaniel Lynch started a ferry service at the confluence of the San Jacinto River and Buffalo Bayou near the Gulf of Mexico; two years later, William Scott, one of Stephen F. Austin's Old 300 settlers, established a homestead nearby, and a community named Bay Town grew up around it; other early settlers included Sam Houston and David G. Burnet, who each served as president of the Republic of Texas, and Mrs. Anson Jones, wife of the fourth and final Texas president; and

WHEREAS, The area remained mostly rural until 1908, when oil was discovered near Tabbs Bay, and in 1916, the first offshore drilling site in Texas was established near Goose Creek; starting in 1917, two towns, Pelly and Goose Creek, grew up around the oil fields, and that same year, Ross S. Sterling founded Humble Oil and Refining Company, now known as ExxonMobil; in 1923, Humble Oil began laying out streets, installing utilities, and financing homes for its employees; in 1947, Pelly and Goose Creek consolidated, and on January 24, 1948, the city of Baytown was established, with a population of nearly 21,000 people; and

WHEREAS, Baytown residents gathered at the TEPCO Solutions event center to commemorate their city's proud history and its many contributions to the growth and success of the state's economy since Baytown's incorporation on January 24, 1948; and

WHEREAS, A leader in the development of the oil and gas industry, Baytown has been central to the petroleum industry throughout its existence; it is where the Exxon Corporation began in the early 20th century, and the company continues to be a major employer in the Baytown area; and

WHEREAS, Baytown is home to stellar cultural and educational institutions, such as Lee College, which has been consistently recognized for its excellent programs and is one of the top two-year colleges in the nation; the Lee College Performing Arts Center, the Art Gallery of Baytown, and the Baytown Public Art Program offer a variety of cultural activities, and visitors are also drawn by opportunities for fishing, boating, and kayaking; wildlife and birding enthusiasts enjoy the outdoor experiences offered by the Baytown Nature Center and the Eddie V. Gray Wetlands Education Center, and other popular destinations in the area include Houston Raceway Park, the Baytown Historical Museum, and the Baytown Sculpture Trail; and

WHEREAS, The dedicated residents of Baytown work and contribute their talents to see that their city thrives and maintains its productivity while honoring its history and traditions; their efforts have made Baytown a rewarding place to live and to call home for generations of workers, students, and families; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 88th Legislature, hereby commend the citizens of Baytown on their invaluable contributions to the Lone Star State and extend to all congratulations on the city's 75th anniversary; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Middleton, Alvarado, Creighton

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 15, 2023.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate

Member, Texas Senate

Member, Texas Senate