

By: Ritter

H.R. No. 65

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Texas House of Representatives is proud to join
2 the citizens of Port Arthur in the joyous celebration of Port Arthur
3 Day at the State Capitol on February 3, 2003; and

4 WHEREAS, Arthur E. Stilwell, railroad promoter and the town's
5 namesake, founded the city in 1895, and it proved to be ideally
6 suited to serve as both a commercial seaport and a tourist
7 destination; Mr. Stilwell's expansive vision for the city was
8 secured in 1901 when the nearby Spindletop eruption ushered in the
9 state's first oil field boom; and

10 WHEREAS, Located nine miles from the Gulf of Mexico in
11 Jefferson County, Port Arthur has long been identified with the oil
12 and petrochemical industries that form one of the bases of the
13 state's economy; blessed with many natural resources, a moderate
14 climate, superb recreational opportunities, and outstanding
15 educational and medical institutions, the city of Port Arthur is
16 attracting new industries to Southeast Texas by providing an
17 increasingly attractive quality of life for its residents; and

18 WHEREAS, Enhancing the city's vitality are the many students
19 attending its fine institution of higher learning, Lamar State
20 College--Port Arthur, founded in 1909 as Port Arthur College; and

21 WHEREAS, Festivals, tournaments, parades, concerts, and
22 other gala celebrations of the community's colorful history and
23 cultural heritage abound throughout the area year-round; the city
24 has become especially well known for its popular annual Mardi Gras

1 festivities as well as for the Chinese/Vietnamese New Year and the
2 Janis Joplin Birthday Bash; and

3 WHEREAS, The chambers of commerce in Port Arthur, Beaumont,
4 Groves, Nederland, and Port Neches, together with various Jefferson
5 County officials, are hosting the second biennial Jefferson County
6 Breakfast on February 4, 2003, at the Driskill Hotel; and

7 WHEREAS, For more than a hundred years, the people of Port
8 Arthur have been building a vibrant, forward-looking community, and
9 it is a pleasure to recognize this dynamic Texas city and its
10 public-spirited citizenry; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
12 Legislature hereby recognize February 3, 2003, as Port Arthur Day
13 at the State Capitol and welcome the community's visiting
14 delegation.