

By: Deshotel

H.R. No. 241

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, On February 25, 2003, many fine Texans have traveled  
2 to Austin to celebrate Beaumont Day at the State Capitol, and it is  
3 a privilege to welcome them at this time; and

4           WHEREAS, Situated along the west bank of the Neches River,  
5 just 30 miles upstream from the Gulf of Mexico, Beaumont was made  
6 the seat of Jefferson County in 1838; throughout the remainder of  
7 the 19th century, the community developed as a trading center for  
8 lumber, cattle, and agricultural products; and

9           WHEREAS, The Anthony F. Lucas Gusher erupted at Spindletop  
10 Hill, just south of Beaumont, on January 10, 1901, and changed the  
11 course of history for this Southeast Texas town; in the years that  
12 followed, some 600 oil companies were created in the city,  
13 including such industry leaders as Texaco, Exxon, and Mobil Oil,  
14 and Beaumont became one of the state's most important oil-producing  
15 centers; and

16           WHEREAS, The Spindletop-Gladys City Boomtown Museum  
17 commemorates this event and provides visitors with a glimpse of  
18 what life was like in the world's first oil boomtown; the museum  
19 site features a post office, saloon, livery stable, blacksmith  
20 shop, and surveyor's office all in typical clapboard style, as well  
21 as wooden oil derricks and a monument to the Lucas Gusher; and

22           WHEREAS, While based in large part on the petroleum and  
23 petrochemical industries, Beaumont's economy also encompasses  
24 shipbuilding and port activities, government offices and services,

1 and rice milling; and

2 WHEREAS, Rich in history, Beaumont is committed to preserving  
3 its heritage for both residents and visitors alike; among the  
4 city's many attractions are the Babe Didrikson Zaharias Museum and  
5 Visitors Center, the Clifton Steamboat Museum, the French Historic  
6 House and Museum, the Texas Energy Museum, the Tyrrell Historical  
7 Library, and numerous art galleries; and

8 WHEREAS, An educational as well as cultural center, Beaumont  
9 is home to the main campus of Lamar University, whose extensive  
10 contributions to the city's vitality include a well-regarded and  
11 thriving film festival; in addition, the city serves as a base for  
12 numerous outdoor pursuits, with the internationally acclaimed Big  
13 Thicket National Preserve offering myriad opportunities for  
14 relaxation and enjoyment; and

15 WHEREAS, Blessed with an abundance of natural resources and a  
16 dedicated citizenry, the city of Beaumont is destined to continue  
17 on its path to success, and its residents can undoubtedly look  
18 forward to a bright and promising future for their community; now,  
19 therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas  
21 Legislature hereby recognize February 25, 2003, as Beaumont Day at  
22 the State Capitol and extend to the delegation with us today sincere  
23 best wishes for a memorable and meaningful visit.