

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 186

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize February 19, 2003, as the East End Area Chamber of Commerce Day at the State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, The City of Houston originated in what is now the East End, at the intersection of Braes and Buffalo bayous; the area was settled by John Harris in 1826 and is known today as "Old Harrisburg"; and

WHEREAS, The East End is home to the Port of Houston, the nation's foremost port for foreign commerce and the sixth largest port in the world; since its opening in 1914, the port has generated nearly \$7.7 billion annually for the state and national economy; and

WHEREAS, With the guidance of the East End Area Chamber of Commerce, a proud citizenry has preserved Houston's birthplace through several revitalization projects; the Gulfgate Center, the first enclosed shopping mall in Texas, has been rebuilt, bringing the widespread expansion of retail business to the area; in addition, the Old Harrisburg Avenue with its unique Spanish Colonial architecture has been carefully restored to preserve a part of Houston's vibrant history; and

WHEREAS, Now the industrial stronghold of the city, the East End is located close to major transportation routes, making it an important site for future commercial and residential redevelopment; it also enjoys proximity to downtown Houston, the Texas Medical Center, several major universities, sports facilities, and cultural amenities; and

WHEREAS, Through the determination and hard work of its members, the East End Area Chamber of Commerce has an impressive record of accomplishments and has played a major role in carrying the East End through times of economic hardship; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby commend the East End Area Chamber of Commerce for its invaluable contributions to the East End of Houston and to our state; and, be it further

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

Gallegos

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 19, 2003.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate