

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 217

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to welcome the leaders of Beaumont to Austin on February 25, 2003, and to join them in celebrating Beaumont Day at the State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, Located on the Neches River, Beaumont was established in 1835 on 50 acres purchased by Henry Millard; lumber products, rice farming, and cattle ranching were the basis for the town's early economy, and the Port of Beaumont became a shipping center for cattle, sugar cane, and cotton; and

WHEREAS, On January 10, 1901, the discovery of oil at Spindletop created a new energy industry and made Beaumont the first Texas boomtown; 600 oil companies were established during the boom, including Texaco, Gulf, and Humble; the city has remained one of the world's largest petrochemical and refining complexes; it also enjoys a thriving economy based on agriculture, customer service centers, and precision industrial equipment supplies companies; and

WHEREAS, The county seat of Jefferson County, Beaumont is known as the Museum Capital of Texas; its 24 museums include the Art Museum of Southeast Texas, the Texas Energy Museum, and the John Jay French Museum, which is the oldest surviving residence in the city; new attractions include the Crockett Street entertainment district in the restored downtown and the Southeast entertainment complex on Interstate 10; and

WHEREAS, The city is located near the Big Thicket National Preserve, providing residents and visitors many outdoor

recreational opportunities; its proximity to the gulf also makes the region rich in beaches, lakes, parks, and marshlands; and

WHEREAS, Beaumont is known for its resourceful and energetic citizens, and they deserve recognition for preserving their city's past and can look forward to its promising future; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby pay tribute to the fine people of Beaumont and declare February 25, 2003, Beaumont Day at the State Capitol; and, be it further

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

Williams

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 25, 2003.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate