## SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 448

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to welcome members of the Texas Motor Transportation Association to Austin on March 26, 2003, as they celebrate Trucking Day at the State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, One out of every 11 workers in Texas, or more than 620,000 people, is employed by the trucking industry; there are approximately 43,000 motor carriers registered with the Motor Carrier Division of the Texas Department of Transportation and more than 500,000 commercial vehicles operating daily in the Lone Star State; and

WHEREAS, Trucks transport nearly 60 percent of all the state's manufactured commodities, delivering necessary products to every Texas community, 72 percent of which rely exclusively on these motor carriers for their goods; the trucking industry further benefits the economy by generating over \$17.5 billion in annual salaries and paying almost \$1.7 billion in state and federal highway taxes and fees; and

WHEREAS, Safety has long been a priority of the motor carrier industry, and since 1980, the number of heavy trucks involved in accidents in Texas has decreased by 40 percent, despite a 37.5 percent increase in trucking miles traveled; and

WHEREAS, The Texas Motor Transportation Association has a Safety Certification Program for safety professionals, an industry-funded commercial motor vehicle safety initiative designed to promote safety on Texas highways, and a variety of educational programs aimed at both the industry and the motoring public; in addition, the association complies with the nation's environmental regulations; and

WHEREAS, The Texas Motor Transportation Association, the state association of the trucking industry, has teamed with the Texas Department of Transportation to produce the first ever mobile highway safety classroom, featuring a state-of-the-art, full-motion truck driver simulator; the safety classroom is designed to enhance the driving skills of commercial truck drivers and to aid passenger vehicles in operating more safely as they share the road with commercial vehicles; and

WHEREAS, The trucking industry is a vital part of the Lone Star State's economy, providing a truly invaluable service, as well as employing many proud Texans, and it is indeed a privilege to honor the trucking industry at this time; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby recognize March 26, 2003, as Trucking Day at the State Capitol and extend a warm welcome to all those associated with this worthy event; and, be it further

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 ${\tt RESOLVED}$  , That a copy of this Resolution be prepared as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Jackson

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 26, 2003.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate