

By: Madla

S.C.R. No. 8

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Legislature of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize James Barto Arnold III, author and archaeologist, for his pioneering work in the field of shipwreck excavation; and

WHEREAS, James Arnold served as our state's second state marine archaeologist, holding the post for 22 years; he has also held office in numerous national archaeological societies, including the Society for Historical Archaeology, the Society of Professional Archaeologists, and the Advisory Council on Underwater Archaeology; and

WHEREAS, James was influential in the passage of the federal Abandoned Shipwreck Act of 1987, an act to establish the title of states in certain abandoned shipwrecks; he has written and published over 100 articles concerning the shipwrecks of Texas and our state's maritime heritage; and

WHEREAS, James has been instrumental in the discovery of many of the Gulf of Mexico's most prominent historical shipwrecks; he discovered the wreck of the Confederate ship *Denbigh*, an important and successful Civil War blockade runner, and he was project director of the Padre Island Spanish Shipwreck of 1554; in 1995, James discovered the wreck of the *La Belle*, the 1685 ship of the French explorer LaSalle; and

WHEREAS, James has been at the forefront of efforts to research, discover, and preserve the archaeological heritage of

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Texas, and he is truly deserving of legislative recognition; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 79th Legislature of the State of Texas, 3rd Called Session, hereby commend James Barto Arnold III for his work in the field of underwater archaeology and his efforts to preserve our state's past for future generations; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be prepared for him as an expression of esteem from the Texas Legislature.