

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Thousands of Vietnamese Americans are traveling to  
2 our nation's capital to celebrate "Vietnam Freedom March:  
3 Remembering the Past, Shaping the Future" on April 30, 2005, and  
4 this historic occasion offers a fitting opportunity to recognize  
5 the heritage and contributions of our nation's Vietnamese American  
6 citizens and pay tribute to the Vietnam veterans; and

7           WHEREAS, The Vietnamese Freedom March coincides with the 30th  
8 anniversary of the Vietnamese Diaspora, a mass exodus of Vietnamese  
9 natives who fled their homeland to escape the oppression of the  
10 country's communist government; many of those refugees were  
11 welcomed by the United States, where they wholeheartedly embraced  
12 the freedoms and opportunities that were previously unavailable to  
13 them; and

14           WHEREAS, Today, the United States is home to some 1.2 million  
15 Vietnamese Americans, nearly 20 percent of whom hold a bachelor's  
16 degree or higher and nearly 60 percent of whom are homeowners; these  
17 productive and valued citizens generate annual receipts in excess  
18 of \$9.7 billion, a significant portion of which is sent to relatives  
19 who remain in Vietnam under the repressive control of the  
20 Vietnamese Communist Party; and

21           WHEREAS, In addition to prospering economically, many of  
22 these esteemed citizens serve as elected officials, have enlisted  
23 in the armed forces, or have been appointed to positions of  
24 responsibility within local, state, and national governments; and

1           WHEREAS, Vietnamese Americans have demonstrated a deep and  
2 abiding respect for democracy and human rights, while retaining a  
3 strong sense of pride in their national heritage, and this  
4 anniversary event will serve to remind all citizens of the United  
5 States that it is these beliefs that bind us together as Americans;  
6 now, therefore, be it

7           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
8 Legislature hereby recognize the "Vietnam Freedom March:  
9 Remembering the Past, Shaping the Future" and extend best wishes to  
10 the participants for a memorable and fulfilling event; and, be it  
11 further

12           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
13 prepared for the Vietnam Freedom March Organizing Committee as an  
14 expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.

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H.R. No. 1223

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1223 was adopted by the House on April 19, 2005, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House