

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1           WHEREAS, Skeeter Products, a noted Texas manufacturer whose  
2 boats have won the admiration of fishing enthusiasts around the  
3 world, is approaching its 60th anniversary, and this milestone  
4 provides an opportunity to honor the many accomplishments of this  
5 successful company; and

6           WHEREAS, The Skeeter story begins in 1948, when avid  
7 fisherman Holmes Thurmond of Marshall built a 13-foot wooden boat  
8 that was designed specifically for bass fishing; its stability and  
9 shallow-water hull design caught the attention of other bass  
10 fishermen in East Texas and western Louisiana, and Mr. Thurmond's  
11 model soon became the center of a thriving business; the  
12 needle-shaped nose on these craft made them resemble a mosquito,  
13 resulting in the name Skeeter, which soon became well known  
14 throughout the United States; and

15           WHEREAS, Pioneering new ways to improve its product, Skeeter  
16 became one of the first companies to use fiberglass in boat  
17 manufacturing, introducing this durable new material in 1961; that  
18 same year, operations were moved to Longview after the Stemco  
19 Corporation became the owner of Skeeter; in subsequent years, the  
20 company has been associated with other leading firms in the  
21 recreational sports industry, including the Coleman Company and the  
22 Yamaha Marine Company; and

23           WHEREAS, Innovation has continued to be a hallmark of this  
24 Texas corporation, with Skeeter helping to introduce

1 groundbreaking elements such as the V-bottom hull and boat designs  
2 that are compatible with the ever more powerful motors being  
3 developed by engine manufacturers; in the 1990s, the company was  
4 one of the first to market a boat made from the technologically  
5 advanced composite materials that had been initially used in the  
6 aerospace industry; Skeeter has also designed popular craft that  
7 are used by walleye and inland bay anglers, while remaining a  
8 leading name in bass fishing; and

9 WHEREAS, Skeeter settled into its longtime home in Kilgore in  
10 the early 1970s, where it continues to build its exceptional  
11 products; today, Skeeter is the only bass boat manufacturer in the  
12 State of Texas, and its many decades of producing superior fishing  
13 craft have made it a well-respected member of the state's business  
14 community and a source of homegrown pride to several generations of  
15 Lone Star fishermen; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the 80th Legislature of the State of Texas  
17 hereby congratulate Skeeter Products on its 60th anniversary and  
18 extend best wishes to the company's management and staff for  
19 continued success; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
21 prepared for Skeeter Products as an expression of high regard by the  
22 Texas House of Representatives and Senate.

Merritt

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 188 was adopted by the House on April 19, 2007, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 188 was adopted by the Senate on May 2, 2007, by a viva-voce vote.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Date

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Governor