

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, February 5-9, 2007, is being celebrated as Texas
2 Technology Week in order to create public awareness of the
3 extraordinary achievements of these industries and the vital role
4 they play in the prosperity of the Lone Star State; and

5 WHEREAS, Sponsoring Texas Technology Week are the AeA Texas
6 Council, the Texas Healthcare and Bioscience Institute, the
7 Metroplex Technology Business Council, and TechNet Texas; and

8 WHEREAS, The state's technology and life-sciences industries
9 and research institutions are revolutionizing the world we live in,
10 achieving leading-edge advances in medicine, space exploration,
11 computing, communications, energy, and transportation; these
12 industries employ more Texans than the oil, natural gas, and
13 agriculture industries combined, and their high-wage, high-skill
14 jobs contribute to a diverse and growing economy; and

15 WHEREAS, People around the globe have benefited immeasurably
16 from the medical treatments and devices developed by Texas
17 companies; the Texas Healthcare and Bioscience Institute, whose
18 membership includes universities and private research
19 institutions, as well as biotechnology, medical device, and
20 pharmaceutical companies, acknowledges that between 2000 and 2004,
21 approximately 2,700 Texas biotechnology patents were issued and
22 that the state's biotechnology-related patent growth is outpacing
23 the national average; and

24 WHEREAS, The life-sciences industry constitutes a

1 significant pillar of the Texas economy; including approximately
2 3,000 establishments employing more than 75,000 Texans, with the
3 promise of continued job growth for many years to come; and

4 WHEREAS, AeA, the nation's largest high-tech trade group,
5 reports that Texas ranks second in the country in high-tech
6 employment, with some 436,000 jobs and with 57 of every 1,000
7 private sector workers in our state employed by high-tech firms;
8 moreover, Texas ranks 12th among all the states in terms of its
9 high-tech average wage, a wage that is nearly double that of the
10 average private sector worker, allowing the industry to provide an
11 aggregate high-tech payroll of \$31.5 billion; the importance of
12 this industry to Texans is further underscored by the fact that
13 high-tech products account for 26 percent of the state's
14 international exports; and

15 WHEREAS, All sectors of the high-technology and
16 life-sciences community are joining together this week to discuss
17 the major issues facing their industries and to affirm their
18 support for a strong system of public and higher education, a
19 critical factor in providing the highly skilled workforce on which
20 these industries depend; and

21 WHEREAS, The technology and life-sciences industry have
22 become a tremendous engine of economic growth in the State of Texas,
23 and the benefits of their research and production enrich people the
24 world over; now, therefore, be it

25 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
26 Legislature hereby recognize February 5-9, 2007, as Texas
27 Technology Week and commend its sponsors for their outstanding

H.R. No. 256

1 efforts in promoting research, development, products, services,
2 and manufacturing in the State of Texas.

Morrison

H.R. No. 256

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 256 was adopted by the House on
February 7, 2007, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House