

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The year 2007 marks the second anniversary of the
2 devastating explosion at the BP Texas City refinery, and this
3 solemn occasion provides an opportunity to remember the victims of
4 that tragic incident; and

5 WHEREAS, In the early afternoon of March 23, 2005, a geyser of
6 highly flammable liquid and vapor erupted from a blowdown drum at
7 the refinery; ignited by an idling pickup truck, the material
8 exploded, and workers who had been making their way through a
9 typical Wednesday were suddenly caught up in a deadly disaster; and

10 WHEREAS, In that inferno of heat and smoke, 15 men and women
11 lost their lives, and 180 more were injured; countless families
12 along the Gulf Coast were personally touched by the incident, and
13 citizens throughout Texas and the rest of the country wondered how
14 an accident of this magnitude had taken place; and

15 WHEREAS, Over the two years that have elapsed since that
16 fateful afternoon, investigations have been launched by the U.S.
17 Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board and by an
18 independent panel of experts convened by BP; their findings have
19 highlighted a range of safety problems that led to the explosion,
20 and new industry practices and state legislation have been proposed
21 to address those issues; a measure popularly known as the "Remember
22 the 15 Bill" has been introduced in the 80th Texas Legislature, and
23 this effort was initiated by Eva Rowe, who lost both of her parents
24 in the disaster; and

1 WHEREAS, The catastrophic turn of events that transpired on
2 that March day are a sobering reminder of the hazards that can exist
3 in the workplaces of the Lone Star State, and the immense sadness
4 and suffering endured by the victims and their loved ones are cause
5 for meaningful reflection by all Texans; now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
7 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the victims of the BP Texas City
8 refinery explosion and extend condolences to those affected by this
9 tragic event; and, be it further

10 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
11 prepared for the families of the victims and that when the Texas
12 House of Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of
13 those killed in the BP Texas City disaster.

Eiland

H.R. No. 987

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 987 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on March 22, 2007.

Chief Clerk of the House