

By: Merritt

H.R. No. 2681

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The year 2007 marks the 25th anniversary of the
2 founding of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Longview; and

3 WHEREAS, St. Mary's was built in an effort to meet the needs
4 of Longview's Catholic community, which had outgrown its old
5 downtown church, and in 1982 St. Mary's Parish was formed under the
6 leadership of Bishop Thomas Tschoepe; and

7 WHEREAS, Monsignor John A. Brennan served as the first pastor
8 of St. Mary's, which is ably led today by the Reverend Gavin
9 Vavarek; now a part of the Diocese of Tyler under Bishop Alvaro
10 Corrado, S.J., the church has grown to include a school, sports
11 center, rosary garden with sitting area, labyrinth, walking trail
12 through the piney woods, and a 24-hour chapel; and

13 WHEREAS, Outreach remains a priority for the institution,
14 which hosts such events as the annual Stampede Race and Fun Run,
15 Monsignor Shopka Golf Tournament, Wunderfall celebration, and the
16 annual basketball free throw competition of the Knights of
17 Columbus; and

18 WHEREAS, From its beginnings, St. Mary's has served as a
19 source of fellowship, comfort, and guidance to its members while
20 also ministering to the needs of its community, and the
21 congregation's rich and dynamic history is indeed deserving of
22 special recognition; now, therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
24 Legislature hereby congratulate St. Mary's Catholic Church in

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1 Longview on its 25th anniversary and extend to all those affiliated
2 with the church sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it
3 further

4 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
5 prepared for the church as an expression of high regard by the Texas
6 House of Representatives.