

By: Swinford

H.C.R. No. 119

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The Texas Panhandle contains the state's greatest
2 wind power potential and some of its best solar power potential, and
3 wind power and solar energy are two of the most abundant renewable
4 resources on earth; and

5 WHEREAS, Class 4 wind is prevalent throughout the region, and
6 the top 4 of 25 identified wind zones also exist in the Panhandle;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Many wind power development companies are actively
9 pursuing projects with landowners in the region and have filed
10 interconnection requests with the Southwest Power Pool totaling
11 more than 14,000 megawatts; and

12 WHEREAS, The wind industry is developing relationships with
13 institutions of higher learning in the area, including Amarillo
14 College, West Texas A&M University, and Texas Tech University, to
15 support and facilitate new jobs and economic development; and

16 WHEREAS, The Panhandle is further distinguished by its
17 numerous hours of solar intensity, which could be captured for
18 solar generation; according to the Climate Program Office of the
19 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the region's two
20 largest cities, Amarillo and Lubbock, experience sunshine more than
21 70 percent of the year; and

22 WHEREAS, With plentiful sunshine and a large expanse of
23 high-quality winds, the Panhandle is renowned throughout the state
24 and beyond for its renewable energy potential, and it is indeed

1 appropriate to recognize the region for its promise as a leader in
2 green energy production; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the 81st Legislature of the State of Texas
4 hereby designate the Panhandle Region of Texas as an official
5 Natural Renewable Resource Area.