

1-1 By: Swinford (Senate Sponsor - Seliger) H.C.R. No. 119
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 20, 2009;
1-3 May 21, 2009, read first time and referred to Committee on Natural
1-4 Resources; May 23, 2009, reported favorably by the following vote:
1-5 Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 23, 2009, sent to printer.)

1-6 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-7 WHEREAS, The Texas Panhandle contains the state's greatest
1-8 wind power potential and some of its best solar power potential, and
1-9 wind power and solar energy are two of the most abundant renewable
1-10 resources on earth; and

1-11 WHEREAS, Class 4 wind is prevalent throughout the region, and
1-12 the top 4 of 25 identified wind zones also exist in the Panhandle;
1-13 and

1-14 WHEREAS, Many wind power development companies are actively
1-15 pursuing projects with landowners in the region and have filed
1-16 interconnection requests with the Southwest Power Pool totaling
1-17 more than 14,000 megawatts; and

1-18 WHEREAS, The wind industry is developing relationships with
1-19 institutions of higher learning in the area, including Amarillo
1-20 College, West Texas A&M University, and Texas Tech University, to
1-21 support and facilitate new jobs and economic development; and

1-22 WHEREAS, The Panhandle is further distinguished by its
1-23 numerous hours of solar intensity, which could be captured for
1-24 solar generation; according to the Climate Program Office of the
1-25 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the region's two
1-26 largest cities, Amarillo and Lubbock, experience sunshine more than
1-27 70 percent of the year; and

1-28 WHEREAS, With plentiful sunshine and a large expanse of
1-29 high-quality winds, the Panhandle is renowned throughout the state
1-30 and beyond for its renewable energy potential, and it is indeed
1-31 appropriate to recognize the region for its promise as a leader in
1-32 green energy production; now, therefore, be it

1-33 RESOLVED, That the 81st Legislature of the State of Texas
1-34 hereby designate the Panhandle Region of Texas as an official
1-35 Natural Renewable Resource Area.

1-36 * * * * *