

By: Smith of Harris

H.C.R. No. 279

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Gary K. Trietsch of Houston retired from the Texas  
2 Department of Transportation on August 31, 2008, after a  
3 distinguished career of more than 40 years with that agency; and

4 WHEREAS, A graduate of The University of Texas at Arlington,  
5 where he earned a bachelor's and a master's degree in civil  
6 engineering, Mr. Trietsch began working for TxDOT as a college  
7 student in the summer of 1967; he joined the department's Fort Worth  
8 district on a full-time basis three years later, after completing  
9 his undergraduate education, and in 1987 he transferred to Austin,  
10 where in 1992 he became director of the Maintenance and Operations  
11 Division; and

12 WHEREAS, In 1995, Mr. Trietsch moved to Houston to take the  
13 reins of the largest TxDOT district in the state; in that capacity,  
14 he oversaw the design, construction, maintenance, and operation of  
15 bridges, state roadways, and the ferry system in a six-county area;  
16 major projects undertaken during his tenure include the removal of  
17 the Baytown Tunnel and the reconstruction of the Galveston  
18 Causeway, the I-10/Katy Freeway West End, and 23 miles of I-30; and

19 WHEREAS, While guiding the Houston District, Mr. Trietsch won  
20 praise for his ability to move large projects to construction in a  
21 timely manner, and he earned widespread goodwill for his ability to  
22 work effectively with local and state officials, as well as with  
23 community groups and nonprofit organizations; and

24 WHEREAS, For his outstanding accomplishments with TxDOT, Mr.

1 Trietsch received the prestigious DeWitt C. Greer Award from Texas  
2 A&M University; his many other accolades include designation as  
3 Texas Transportation Engineer of the Year, as Houston Area Engineer  
4 of the Year, and as a Distinguished Alumnus of UTA; in addition, the  
5 Harris County Commissioners Court has named a new park after Mr.  
6 Trietsch and his wife, Bonnie; and

7         WHEREAS, The founding president of ITS Texas, an affiliate of  
8 the Intelligent Transportation Society of America, Mr. Trietsch has  
9 also served on the boards of the Institute of Transportation  
10 Engineers, National Society of Professional Engineers, and Western  
11 Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials; and

12         WHEREAS, The myriad projects that Gary Trietsch has helped  
13 bring to fruition over the years have increased the safe and  
14 efficient transportation of countless Texans and contributed  
15 significantly to the economic development of the Lone Star State;  
16 now, therefore, be it

17         RESOLVED, That the 81st Legislature of the State of Texas  
18 hereby honor Gary K. Trietsch for his more than four decades of  
19 exceptional service with the Texas Department of Transportation and  
20 extend to him sincere best wishes for continued success in all his  
21 endeavors; and, be it further

22         RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
23 prepared for Mr. Trietsch as an expression of high regard by the  
24 Texas House of Representatives and Senate.