

By: Eiland

H.R. No. 336

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Residents of Chambers County are gathering at the
2 State Capitol on February 11, 2009, to celebrate their unique
3 region of Texas and to discuss the challenges they face after
4 Hurricane Ike; and

5 WHEREAS, Situated on the plains of the Gulf Coast, Chambers
6 County was first settled by several Indian tribes and by people from
7 Spain, France, and Mexico; the county was created in 1858 from
8 portions of Liberty and Jefferson Counties, and it was named for T.
9 J. Chambers, a chief justice of the Supreme Court of Coahuila and
10 Texas; and

11 WHEREAS, Over the years, the diverse economy of Chambers
12 County has included agriculture, fish and oyster processing, and
13 the petroleum industry, and the region's abundant natural resources
14 have drawn visitors from across the state for the ample
15 opportunities for birding, hunting, and fishing in the county's
16 coastal marshlands; and

17 WHEREAS, Today, however, the people of Chambers County are
18 facing the difficult job of cleaning up after Hurricane Ike, which
19 struck on September 13, 2008; a number of people lost their lives,
20 and homes and businesses were destroyed or severely damaged; two of
21 the county's treasured habitats, the Anahuac National Wildlife
22 Refuge and the Candy Cain Abshier Wildlife Management Area, were
23 hit hard as well; the popular Texas Gatorfest in Anahuac and the
24 Texas Rice Festival in Winnie were canceled; and

1 WHEREAS, In spite of these setbacks, the people of Chambers
2 County are working with grit and determination to restore their way
3 of life; businesses have begun to reopen, and three months to the
4 day after the landfall of the hurricane, portions of the Anahuac
5 National Wildlife Refuge were opened again to the public; plans for
6 the 2009 Gatorfest and the Rice Festival are well under way; and

7 WHEREAS, The hardy spirit of the people of Chambers County
8 remains strong, and with the help of their fellow Texans, they are
9 working dauntlessly to rebuild their communities, earning the
10 respect of all for their courage and fortitude; now, therefore, be
11 it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
13 Legislature hereby recognize February 11, 2009, as Chambers County
14 Day at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation best
15 wishes for a meaningful and productive visit to Austin.