

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The Hughes Christensen Company is commemorating the  
2 100th anniversary of its origins in 2009, making this a fitting  
3 occasion to celebrate its important role in the history of the  
4 petroleum industry and of Texas; and

5           WHEREAS, Founder Howard Robard Hughes, Sr., came to Texas  
6 from Iowa in 1902, seeking his fortune in the booming Texas  
7 oilfields; in 1906, he invented the two-cone rotary drill bit,  
8 which made it easier to drill through rock; and

9           WHEREAS, Mr. Hughes patented the revolutionary invention in  
10 1909 and cofounded the Sharp-Hughes Tool Company, which later  
11 became the Hughes Tool Company; two Hughes engineers created the  
12 tri-cone bit in 1933, and it quickly became the most widely used  
13 drill bit in the oil industry; when Mr. Hughes died, his son, Howard  
14 Hughes, Jr., inherited the company, along with the fortune that  
15 would make him one of the richest and most famous men of his era;  
16 though Howard Hughes, Jr., had little involvement in the company,  
17 it would continue to advance research and development of oil  
18 drilling technology for the next 50 years; and

19           WHEREAS, In the 1940s, Frank and George Christensen pioneered  
20 the diamond drill bit, and together they founded Christensen  
21 Diamond Products; like Hughes Tool, Christensen was an important  
22 innovator in the field, introducing the first polycrystalline  
23 diamond compact (PDC) drill bit in 1972; and

24           WHEREAS, In the early 1990s, Hughes Tool, now part of Baker

1 Hughes, merged with Christensen to become Hughes Christensen, and  
2 this dynamic and innovative company is a respected leader in the  
3 design and manufacture of diamond and tri-cone drilling technology  
4 today; and

5 WHEREAS, Now headquartered in The Woodlands under the  
6 leadership of its president, Gary Rich, Hughes Christensen is both  
7 one of the largest employers in its community and a company of  
8 global reach, boasting a rich history and the promise of a bright  
9 future; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
11 Legislature hereby congratulate the Hughes Christensen Company on  
12 its 100th anniversary and extend to its employees sincere best  
13 wishes for continued success; and, be it further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
15 prepared for Hughes Christensen as an expression of high regard by  
16 the Texas House of Representatives.

Eissler

H.R. No. 1353

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1353 was adopted by the House on April 27, 2009, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House