

By: Hernandez

H.R. No. 1382

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Representatives of the East End Chamber of Commerce
2 in Houston are visiting the State Capitol on April 16, 2009, to
3 celebrate the rich heritage and bright prospects of a notable
4 corner of the Lone Star State; and

5 WHEREAS, The Houston East End encompasses the former city of
6 Harrisburg, which was platted in 1826, 10 years before the founding
7 of Houston itself; a shipping center for the early Texas colonies,
8 Harrisburg became the seat of government for Harrisburg
9 Municipality in December 1835, and it served as the capital of the
10 Republic of Texas from March 22 to April 13, 1836; burned shortly
11 thereafter by the Mexican Army, the town was rebuilt and
12 incorporated in 1837; Harrisburg enjoyed the distinction of being
13 the site of the first steam sawmill, grist mills, and railroad
14 terminal in Texas; the community was annexed by Houston in 1926; and

15 WHEREAS, Today the East End is the proud home of the Port of
16 Houston, one of the largest ports in the world; the Port of Houston
17 is ranked first in foreign waterborne tonnage and second in total
18 tonnage in the United States; and

19 WHEREAS, In 2006, the East End Chamber of Commerce, in
20 partnership with the Greater East End Management District and with
21 the input of nearly 300 stakeholders, completed the Strategic
22 Vision, a program to guide the development of the East End over the
23 following decade; the Strategic Vision identified six priorities to
24 be addressed: the area's economic development, educational

1 resources, history, image, infrastructure, and parks and
2 neighborhoods; and

3 WHEREAS, The chamber of commerce and its partners have made
4 great strides already toward realizing the goals of this ambitious
5 plan; major achievements include the initiation of a National
6 Engineering Academy at Chavez High School, the creation of two Port
7 of Houston Maritime Academies, scheduled to open at Austin High
8 School and Yates High School in August 2009, and the establishment
9 of an Economic Development Division to retain current businesses
10 and attract new enterprises to the East End; and

11 WHEREAS, Together with the residential community, the East
12 End Chamber of Commerce is striving to ensure that development in
13 the area is conducive to enhancing the quality of life of all who
14 live there, and it is a privilege to commend this dynamic
15 organization for its forward-looking leadership and civic
16 engagement; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
18 Legislature hereby recognize April 16, 2009, as East End Chamber of
19 Commerce Day at the State Capitol and extend to all the chamber
20 members who have traveled to Austin best wishes for an enjoyable and
21 memorable visit; and, be it further

22 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
23 prepared for the East End Chamber of Commerce as an expression of
24 high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.