

By: Harper-Brown

H.R. No. 1414

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The Texas Bicycle Coalition, also known as  
2 BikeTexas, was organized in 1991 to promote the advancement of  
3 bicycling access, safety, and education in the Lone Star State; and

4           WHEREAS, Millions of Texans ride bicycles for fitness,  
5 recreation, and transportation each day; bicycling can be pursued  
6 at any age and has been identified by public health professionals as  
7 an activity that could greatly reduce the cost of health care;  
8 bicycling benefits the economy as well, with Texans spending more  
9 than \$200 million annually on bicycle-related goods and services;  
10 moreover, bicycle races, tours, rallies, and other events taking  
11 place throughout the state have a positive financial impact on  
12 participating communities, and such events raise more than \$50  
13 million annually for Texas charities; and

14           WHEREAS, Mountain bikers in the state play a beneficial role  
15 in enhancing our parks and other public lands, contributing  
16 thousands of volunteer hours each year toward multiuse trail  
17 creation and enhancement and care of the outdoor environment; and

18           WHEREAS, Bicycle safety standards applied to road design and  
19 construction, as well as to traffic regulations, will create more  
20 bicycle-friendly communities, thereby encouraging more people to  
21 engage in this favorable outdoor activity; and

22           WHEREAS, Since 1998, the Texas Department of Transportation  
23 has awarded a grant to the BikeTexas Education Fund for the Texas  
24 SuperCyclist and SuperCollege Programs, which have certified more

1 than 3,500 physical education and health teachers in bicycle safety  
2 and allowed for some 200,000 schoolchildren to receive bicycle  
3 safety instruction; and

4 WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of Education awarded the  
5 BikeTexas Education Fund a three-year, \$1.3 million grant in 2004  
6 to pilot a Safe Routes to School program combining the education and  
7 encouragement components of the internationally accepted Safe  
8 Routes to School model used in Lubbock, Amarillo, Fort Worth, and  
9 Wichita Falls; in addition, BikeTexas has been a national leader in  
10 the effort to include funding for Safe Routes to School programs in  
11 federal transportation bills, and Texas has received nearly \$30  
12 million for its SRTS programs since 2005; and

13 WHEREAS, For nearly two decades, BikeTexas has worked to  
14 enhance the safety of Texas roadways for cyclists and others, and it  
15 is indeed fitting to recognize this outstanding organization; now,  
16 therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
18 Legislature hereby commend BikeTexas for its hard work and  
19 dedication in behalf of bicycle safety and extend sincere best  
20 wishes for continued success to its board of directors, staff,  
21 members, and volunteers; and, be it further

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