

By: Martinez Fischer

H.R. No. 1725

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, National Safe Boating Week is being observed from  
2 May 16 to 22, 2009, to raise awareness about the importance of  
3 always wearing a life jacket on the water; and

4           WHEREAS, Recreational boating, including fishing and water  
5 skiing, is an immensely popular summer sport among Texans, and  
6 waterways can quickly become crowded, resulting in confusion,  
7 unforeseen risks, and, too often, tragedy; and

8           WHEREAS, According to the National Safe Boating Council,  
9 about 700 people die each year in boating-related accidents, and  
10 nearly 70 percent of these fatalities are caused by drowning; the  
11 vast majority of accidents occur because of human error or poor  
12 judgment and can be easily prevented; and

13           WHEREAS, It has been estimated that wearing a life jacket can  
14 reduce the number of boaters who drown by approximately 80 percent;  
15 although many boaters stow life jackets on board, there is rarely  
16 enough time to properly employ one in the event of an accident; in  
17 an effort to increase people's willingness to wear them, modern  
18 life jackets have been designed to be smaller, lighter, and more  
19 comfortable; and

20           WHEREAS, Boating accidents happen regardless of one's  
21 experience level, and wearing a life jacket is the most effective  
22 way to prevent drowning for veteran and novice boaters alike; now,  
23 therefore, be it

24           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas

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1 Legislature hereby recognize May 16 to 22, 2009, as National Safe  
2 Boating Week and encourage Texans to wear life jackets at all times  
3 while on the water.