

By: Ritter

H.R. No. 2006

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The year 2009 marks the centennial of the Beaumont  
2 Center, and this occasion provides a fitting opportunity to honor  
3 this important agricultural research facility; and

4           WHEREAS, By an act of the Texas Legislature, the center was  
5 first established in 1909 as an experimental station focused on  
6 rice cultivation, with the United States Department of Agriculture  
7 joining the initiative five years later; originally located in the  
8 community of Amelia, it moved to its present location in Beaumont in  
9 1945, and a second research station at Eagle Lake was added in the  
10 1970s; through the years, the center has been the site of a  
11 productive collaboration between educational, governmental, and  
12 agricultural organizations, and today encompasses the Texas A&M  
13 AgriLIFE Research Center, the USDA Agricultural Research Service,  
14 and the Texas Rice Improvement Association; and

15           WHEREAS, The Beaumont Center is dedicated to the goal of  
16 providing Texas rice producers with a competitive advantage over  
17 growers in other states and nations, but the scientific knowledge  
18 gained at the facility is also applied to the wider agricultural  
19 needs of the United States; the center's 10 scientists and support  
20 staff conduct research that leads to the development of new rice  
21 varieties as well as to practices that help improve rice production  
22 and control pests and diseases; and

23           WHEREAS, Another vital function of the Beaumont Center is to  
24 contribute to the educational mission of Texas A&M University, with

1 students taking part in research projects under the guidance of  
2 staff scientists; moreover, the center is active in research  
3 outreach efforts, making presentations to school classes and  
4 offering tours that highlight its ongoing programs; and

5 WHEREAS, During a century of dedicated work, the Beaumont  
6 Center has pioneered many significant advances that have furthered  
7 the Lone Star State's stature as an agricultural leader, and this  
8 notable facility is indeed deserving of recognition as it marks  
9 this important milestone in its history; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
11 Legislature hereby commemorate the centennial of the Beaumont  
12 Center and pay tribute to the many devoted people who have  
13 contributed to its achievements through the years; and, be it  
14 further

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