

By: Ritter

H.R. No. 2236

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Texas is a diverse state with a variety of
2 ecological and hydrogeological regions and a wide range of
3 rainfall, surface water, and groundwater availability; and

4 WHEREAS, The Texas Water Development Board estimates that the
5 state's population will more than double between 2000 and 2060,
6 growing from about 21 million to some 46 million; the board further
7 estimates that the demand for water will increase by 27 percent,
8 from nearly 17 million acre-feet of water in 2000 to 21.6 million
9 acre-feet in 2060, and that existing water supplies will decrease
10 by about 18 percent, from approximately 17.9 million acre-feet in
11 2010 to around 14.6 million acre-feet in 2060; and

12 WHEREAS, One of the easiest and most cost-effective solutions
13 to help the state meet water supply needs now and in the future is
14 water conservation, which includes not only the reduction of
15 overall demand for water but also the increase in efficiency of
16 water systems; and

17 WHEREAS, The Water Conservation Advisory Council was created
18 in 2007 to develop information on best conservation practices and
19 report biennially to the legislature on water conservation efforts;
20 additionally, the 2007 State Water Plan recommends that 600,000
21 acre-feet of municipal water be conserved statewide, and many
22 believe additional water conservation is achievable by a number of
23 new conservation methods, including increased energy efficiency;
24 and

1 WHEREAS, Some regional water plans also set ambitious water
2 conservation goals and must meet those goals to be able to match
3 water demand with water supply; most cities are required by state
4 law to develop written water conservation plans, and several have
5 adopted exemplary water conservation programs; and

6 WHEREAS, Education about water conservation opportunities
7 and practices is needed for consumers, municipal users,
8 agriculture, and industry to consume less, waste less, and reuse
9 more; taking the lead in such education are the Texas Water
10 Development Board, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality,
11 the Parks and Wildlife Department, the Department of Agriculture,
12 and the Texas Water Foundation; moreover, groundwater conservation
13 districts, water utilities and irrigation districts, river
14 authorities, communities, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and
15 individuals are also involved in the efforts; and

16 WHEREAS, The legislature recognizes the critical importance
17 of bringing together water conservation leaders to educate Texans
18 about water conservation opportunities and practices and to promote
19 the need for additional conservation; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
21 Legislature hereby commend Texans across the state for their
22 efforts to conserve water, urge them to continue to conserve even
23 more water, and recognize May 21, 2009, as Texas Water Conservation
24 Day at the State Capitol.