

By: Howard of Travis

H.R. No. 2349

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The Bureau of Economic Geology at The University of  
2 Texas at Austin, the oldest research unit at the school, is  
3 celebrating its centennial in 2009; and

4           WHEREAS, Established by The University of Texas Board of  
5 Regents in 1909, the bureau is now part of the John A. and Katherine  
6 G. Jackson School of Geosciences; members of the bureau staff  
7 contribute to the state and to the advancement of science through  
8 the undertaking of basic and applied research related to energy and  
9 mineral resources, water resources, coastal processes, and  
10 environmental issues; in addition, the staff provides a wide range  
11 of advisory and technical services to industries, nonprofit  
12 organizations, and local, state, and federal government agencies;  
13 and

14           WHEREAS, Since its inception, the bureau has performed State  
15 Geological Survey functions as requested by the Texas Legislature,  
16 providing the geoscience information needed for the crafting of  
17 state energy and other policies; and

18           WHEREAS, Bureau staff also conduct research for various  
19 industry partners who lease mineral rights from the state,  
20 including independent operators responsible for most of the oil and  
21 gas production in Texas, and such initiatives create enhanced  
22 royalty income and severance tax revenue; and

23           WHEREAS, Along with its service to elected officials,  
24 government employees, and individuals in private industry, the

1 bureau provides outstanding educational opportunities for  
2 undergraduate and graduate students, supports science fairs and  
3 other programs oriented toward elementary and secondary students,  
4 fosters the professional development of teachers, and promotes  
5 professional education through its staff's engagement in symposia,  
6 conferences, and the like; and

7 WHEREAS, A major research institution, the bureau maintains  
8 the largest volume of subsurface core samples in the country, while  
9 its publications program has produced hundreds of maps, reports,  
10 and other publications; and

11 WHEREAS, Standing on the threshold of its second century, the  
12 Bureau of Economic Geology is committed to addressing the issues of  
13 energy, water, and the environment--three fundamental challenges  
14 that are confronting Texas and the rest of the world; now,  
15 therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
17 Legislature hereby commemorate the 100th anniversary of the  
18 founding of the Bureau of Economic Geology and extend to its staff  
19 sincere best wishes for continued success in all their endeavors;  
20 and, be it further

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