

By: Edwards

H.R. No. 2368

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Douglas Matthews has long been a valued supporter of  
2 the celebration of Juneteenth in Galveston; and

3 WHEREAS, An official state holiday since 1980, Juneteenth  
4 commemorates an important milestone in human rights in Texas, the  
5 first reading of the Emancipation Proclamation in Galveston on June  
6 19, 1865, by Union general Gordon Granger, which effectively freed  
7 the 250,000 slaves in Texas at the end of the Civil War; and

8 WHEREAS, Douglas Matthews is assistant vice president for  
9 government relations at The University of Texas Medical Branch in  
10 Galveston; a leading member of his profession, he has also  
11 distinguished himself through his energetic participation in a  
12 number of community organizations and activities; and

13 WHEREAS, This public-spirited citizen serves as chairman of  
14 the State Juneteenth Advisory Committee, which is responsible for  
15 designing and constructing two state Juneteenth monuments; in  
16 addition, he is Galveston coordinator of Juneteenth USA and  
17 contributes to the Ashton Villa Juneteenth Celebration, now in its  
18 30th year, and the Al Edwards Juneteenth Banquet, celebrating its  
19 13th year in 2009; and

20 WHEREAS, Through his ongoing leadership, Mr. Matthews has  
21 helped to ensure a continued awareness of this landmark event, not  
22 only in Galveston but also across the state; now, therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
24 Legislature hereby commend Douglas Matthews for his notable support

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1 of Juneteenth activities and extend to him sincere best wishes for  
2 continued success and happiness; and, be it further

3       RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
4 prepared for Mr. Matthews as an expression of high regard by the  
5 Texas House of Representatives.