

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 302

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to join citizens of the Coastal Bend area in recognizing February 25, 2009, as Coastal Bend Day at the State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, Home to many of Texas' top attractions, the Coastal Bend area is an economic powerhouse with a notable history and a bright future; and

WHEREAS, The Padre Island National Seashore's 68-mile beach constitutes the longest undeveloped shoreline in the country and is a favorite of outdoor enthusiasts; the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge draws 75,000 visitors a year, and the Texas Maritime Museum draws more than 1,000 visitors a month; and

WHEREAS, The Port of Corpus Christi is the sixth-largest port in the nation and an important strategic deployment port for the United States military; Naval Air Station Kingsville is the United States Navy's largest advanced jet-training base, and Naval Air Station Corpus Christi and Naval Air Station Ingleside have played a vital role in the growth of the area; and

WHEREAS, Education plays a major role in the life of the area, with Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi, Texas A&M University--Kingsville, and Del Mar College serving over 26,000 students; Texas A&M University--Kingsville recently opened the doors of its Rangel College of Pharmacy, the state's first professional school to open south of San Antonio, and Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi recently created the Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies; and

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WHEREAS, With its deep-water port facilities, abundant natural resources, and hard-working citizens, the Coastal Bend area of Texas is an inviting place in which to live, work, and raise a family; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 81st Legislature, hereby commend the citizens of the Coastal Bend area for their many contributions to the rich cultural and economic fabric of our state and extend to them a heartfelt welcome to Austin on Coastal Bend Day at the State Capitol; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared in honor of this occasion.

Hinojosa, Lucio

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 25, 2009.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate

Member, Texas Senate