

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1           WHEREAS, Southwest Airlines is celebrating its 40th  
2 anniversary on June 18, 2011, providing a welcome opportunity to  
3 celebrate the success of this signature Texas company and its  
4 cofounder, Herb Kelleher; and

5           WHEREAS, In the mid-1960s, businessman Rollin W. King  
6 conceived of a new kind of airline that could fly passengers  
7 inexpensively and quickly across short distances; in a meeting with  
8 his lawyer, Herb Kelleher, at the St. Anthony Club in San Antonio,  
9 he used a napkin to illustrate his idea, drawing a triangle with  
10 points labeled San Antonio, Houston, and Dallas; this simple sketch  
11 would go on to become a symbol of the infant company's ethos and to  
12 form the basis of its initial route map; and

13           WHEREAS, Southwest Airlines was chartered as a Texas  
14 corporation, and on June 18, 1971, the company began commercial  
15 flights with three Boeing 737 airliners and fewer than 70  
16 employees; since then, thanks in large part to the dynamic  
17 leadership of Mr. Kelleher, who served as the company's chairman,  
18 president, and CEO from 1982 until 2001, Southwest has become one of  
19 the most respected names in the industry; now under the direction of  
20 Gary Kelly, nearly 35,000 employees schedule, maintain, and fly  
21 more than 500 Boeing 737s between 72 cities in 37 states; the  
22 airline operates 3,400 flights a day, making it the largest U.S.  
23 carrier of domestic passengers as of September 2010; moreover, the  
24 airline has turned a profit for 38 years in a row; and

1           WHEREAS, Southwest has regularly earned top rankings in  
2 safety from the International Airline Passengers Association, and  
3 it has consistently received the lowest ratio of customer  
4 complaints per passenger boarded of all major U.S. airlines  
5 according to data from the U.S. Department of Transportation; and

6           WHEREAS, This impressive record of customer satisfaction is  
7 no doubt linked to Southwest's approach to employee relations; in  
8 1973, the company initiated the first profit-sharing program in the  
9 U.S. airline industry, and it has never laid off or furloughed a  
10 single employee; among its many honors, Southwest is often  
11 recognized as one of the best places in the country to work; in  
12 addition, it was recently named the "greenest airline" by the  
13 nonprofit group Climate Counts, and it has been repeatedly ranked  
14 as one of the most admired companies in the world by *Fortune*  
15 magazine; and

16           WHEREAS, Over the last four decades, the percentage of  
17 American adults who have flown on a commercial airliner has risen  
18 from 15 to 85 percent, a result that is often referred to as the  
19 "Southwest Effect," and on the occasion of this special  
20 anniversary, Mr. Kelleher, Mr. Kelly, and the employees of  
21 Southwest may indeed take great pride in their enormous  
22 contributions to the mobility of Americans and to the culture as a  
23 whole; now, therefore, be it

24           RESOLVED, That the 82nd Legislature of the State of Texas,  
25 1st Called Session, hereby commemorate the 40th anniversary of  
26 Southwest Airlines and extend to Herb Kelleher, Gary Kelly, and the  
27 entire Southwest family sincere best wishes for continued success;

1 and, be it further

2           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
3 prepared for Southwest Airlines as an expression of high regard by  
4 the Texas House of Representatives and Senate.

Craddick  
Parker  
Darby  
Anchia

Straus	Gonzales of Williamson	Morrison
Aliseda	Gonzalez	Munoz, Jr.
Allen	Gooden	Murphy
Alonzo	Guillen	Naishtat
Alvarado	Gutierrez	Nash
Anchia	Hamilton	Oliveira
Anderson of Dallas	Hancock	Orr
Anderson of McLennan	Hardcastle	Otto
Aycock	Harless	Parker
Beck	Harper-Brown	Patrick
Berman	Hartnett	Paxton
Bohac	Hernandez Luna	Pena
Bonnen	Hilderbran	Perry
Branch	Hochberg	Phillips
Brown	Hopson	Pickett
Burkett	Howard of Fort Bend	Pitts
Burnam	Howard of Travis	Price
Button	Huberty	Quintanilla
Cain	Hughes	Raymond
Callegari	Hunter	Reynolds
Carter	Isaac	Riddle
Castro	Jackson	Ritter
Chisum	Johnson	Rodriguez
Christian	Keffer	Schwertner
Coleman	King of Parker	Scott
Cook	King of Taylor	Sheets
Craddick	King of Zavala	Sheffield
Creighton	Kleinschmidt	Shelton
Crownover	Kolkhorst	Simpson
Darby	Kuempel	Smith of Harris
Davis of Dallas	Landtroop	Smith of Tarrant
J. Davis of Harris	Larson	Smithee
S. Davis of Harris	Laubenberg	Solomons
Deshotel	Lavender	Strama
Driver	Legler	Taylor of Collin
Dukes	Lewis	Taylor of Galveston
Dutton	Lozano	Thompson
Eiland	Lucio III	Torres
Eissler	Lyne	Truitt
Elkins	Madden	Turner
Farias	Mallory Caraway	Veasey
Farrar	Margo	Villarreal
Fletcher	Marquez	Vo
Flynn	Martinez	Walle
Frullo	Martinez Fischer	Weber
Gallego	McClendon	White
Garza	Menendez	Woolley
Geren	Miles	Workman
Giddings	Miller of Comal	Zedler
Gonzales of Hidalgo	Miller of Erath	Zerwas

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 20 was adopted by the House on June 21, 2011, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 20 was adopted by the Senate on June 28, 2011, by a viva-voce vote.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Date

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Governor