

By: Keffer

H.C.R. No. 136

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Each year, the nation's underground utility
2 infrastructure is jeopardized by unsafe digging practices, which
3 may also cause service interruption, damage to the environment, and
4 personal injury or death; and

5 WHEREAS, Utility lines are compromised once every three
6 minutes due to digging, and one-third of these incidents are caused
7 by the failure of professional excavators or homeowners to call the
8 national "Call Before You Dig" number, 8-1-1, before beginning
9 their digging project; designated by the Federal Communications
10 Commission in 2005, 8-1-1 connects to a local one-call center that
11 can provide utility line locations at the intended dig site; and

12 WHEREAS, In addition to calling 8-1-1, safe digging practices
13 include waiting the required amount of time, respecting the marked
14 lines by maintaining visual definition throughout the course of the
15 excavation, and digging with care around the marks; and

16 WHEREAS, The people of Texas depend on underground
17 infrastructure for energy, clean water, and communication
18 services, and educational outreach is the first step in the effort
19 to prevent damage to this vital network; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the 82nd Legislature of the State of Texas
21 hereby commemorate April 2011 as Safe Digging Month and encourage
22 all Texans to, "Know what's below and call before you dig."