

By: Rodriguez

H.R. No. 577

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Construction workers and members of the Build a
2 Better Texas Coalition are gathering in Austin on March 2, 2011, to
3 promote workplace safety in the construction industry; and

4 WHEREAS, The construction industry plays a significant role
5 in the Texas economy, employing nearly 600,000 men and women and
6 generating \$29.2 billion in wages each year; and

7 WHEREAS, Workplace safety in Texas is a serious issue;
8 however, more construction workers die as a result of workplace
9 accidents or conditions in Texas than in any other state; in 2009
10 alone, 138 people in the Texas construction industry lost their
11 lives; moreover, one in every five construction workers in the
12 state suffers an injury on the job that requires medical attention;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Whenever employers in the industry fail to abide by
15 the law, they hurt the ability of responsible businesses to
16 compete, put the physical safety of their workers at risk, and force
17 taxpayers to pick up costs resulting from their illegal practices;
18 the Build a Better Texas Coalition is a group of businesses,
19 community organizations, faith-based groups, and individuals who
20 seek to foster workplace safety and to level the playing field for
21 responsible businesses; and

22 WHEREAS, Components of a proactive industry approach to
23 worker safety include providing a safe workplace, adequate safety
24 training and rest breaks, and workers' compensation insurance,

1 which ensures that both workers and employers are protected in the
2 event of a workplace accident; and

3 WHEREAS, A strong and sustainable construction industry is
4 essential to the economic prosperity of the Lone Star State, and
5 such an industry is fostered by safe worksite practices; now,
6 therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
8 Legislature hereby recognize March 2, 2011, as the Day of the Fallen
9 in memory of the thousands of Texans who have died in
10 construction-related accidents and call on leaders in the
11 construction industry to uphold the highest standards of workplace
12 safety.