

By: Gooden

H.R. No. 1617

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The North Texas Municipal Water District has  
2 received the 2011 Texas Environmental Excellence Award for water  
3 conservation; and

4           WHEREAS, Established by the Texas Commission on  
5 Environmental Quality, the Texas Environmental Excellence Awards  
6 celebrate the bold efforts of citizens, communities, businesses,  
7 and organizations to preserve and protect the state's environment;  
8 the awards are presented each spring in diverse categories across  
9 the public and private sectors; and

10           WHEREAS, The North Texas Municipal Water District, which  
11 provides services to more than 1.6 million area residents, is  
12 meeting the growing demand for water through a unique, natural  
13 solution; its East Fork Wetland Project in Kaufman County diverts  
14 water from the east fork of the Trinity River and uses plants, not  
15 machinery, to remove sediment, nitrogen, and other elements by  
16 routing the water through approximately 1,840 acres of wetland  
17 habitat; the cleansed water is then pumped to Lake Lavon for storage  
18 and water supply use; the project is expected to eventually provide  
19 enough water to serve a half-million people per year; and

20           WHEREAS, One of the largest constructed wetlands in the  
21 United States, the East Fork Wetland also provides enhanced  
22 habitats for wildlife, and in 2010, the water district constructed  
23 the John Bunker Sands Wetland Center, an educational facility that  
24 promotes research in water quality and supply, wildlife management,

1 and wetland systems; and

2 WHEREAS, The district supplemented its development of new  
3 raw-water supplies by becoming the first entity to implement the  
4 Texas Water Development Board's Water IQ public awareness program;  
5 responding to the worst drought conditions in a half-century, this  
6 campaign helped curb projected peak-day water consumption by an  
7 estimated 200 million gallons a day in 2006, and consumption has  
8 remained below the expected water demand despite population growth;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, With its innovative strategies to use reclaimed  
11 water and enact important water conservation programs, the North  
12 Texas Municipal Water District is demonstrating exemplary  
13 stewardship of our state's natural resources, and it is indeed  
14 worthy of this prestigious accolade; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
16 Legislature hereby congratulate the North Texas Municipal Water  
17 District on its receipt of the 2011 Texas Environmental Excellence  
18 Award for water conservation and that all those associated with the  
19 East Fork Wetland Project and the Water IQ program be commended for  
20 their outstanding work; and, be it further

21 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
22 prepared for the district as an expression of high regard by the  
23 Texas House of Representatives.