

By: Kolkhorst

H.R. No. 1854

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Texas provides vital health care services to its  
2 residents through more than 590 hospitals, which together house  
3 some 82,000 licensed beds; and

4 WHEREAS, These diverse institutions range from general  
5 acute-care and pediatric hospitals to psychiatric, rehabilitation,  
6 long-term acute-care, and other specialty facilities; about 27  
7 percent are located in rural areas of the state, while more than 73  
8 percent are in urban areas; and

9 WHEREAS, During 2009, Texas hospitals provided care for an  
10 estimated 2.7 million inpatients, 37 million outpatients, and 9.5  
11 million emergency patients, and they were the site of 808,000  
12 inpatient surgeries and 395,000 births; and

13 WHEREAS, Over 260 of the state's hospitals are designated  
14 trauma facilities and staffed by specially trained physicians and  
15 nurses, as well as supported by EMS personnel who provide urgent  
16 prehospital care through ground and air transportation; this trauma  
17 system is critical to the health and economic well-being of Texas;  
18 and

19 WHEREAS, Hospitals rank as the number two source of private  
20 sector jobs in rural areas of the state and are among the top 20  
21 employers in major metropolitan areas, with approximately 366,000  
22 full-time and part-time employees statewide, including some  
23 120,000 registered nurses and licensed vocational nurses; and

24 WHEREAS, Jobs in Texas hospitals generate approximately \$137

1 billion in economic activity annually, and one in nine U.S. jobs are  
2 supported either directly or indirectly by hospitals; and

3 WHEREAS, Texas has the highest rate of uninsured residents in  
4 the nation, and hospitals are required by state and federal law to  
5 assess and stabilize all who come to the emergency room, without  
6 regard to their ability to pay; and

7 WHEREAS, Hospitals stand ready to serve 24 hours a day, 7 days  
8 a week, 365 days a year, and it is indeed fitting to acknowledge the  
9 contributions of these vital institutions; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
11 Legislature hereby join in observing May 8-14, 2011, as National  
12 Hospital Week and in recognizing all those who serve in hospitals  
13 across the Lone Star State.