

By: Smith of Harris

H.R. No. 2140

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, National Safe Boating Week is being observed from
2 May 21 to 27, 2011; and

3 WHEREAS, Recreational boating, including fishing and water
4 skiing, is an immensely popular summer sport among Texans, and
5 waterways can quickly become crowded, resulting in confusion,
6 unforeseen risks, and, too often, tragedy; and

7 WHEREAS, According to the National Safe Boating Council,
8 about 700 people die each year in boating-related accidents in the
9 United States, and nearly 70 percent of these fatalities are caused
10 by drowning; the vast majority of accidents occur because of human
11 error or poor judgment and can be easily prevented; and

12 WHEREAS, Statistics have shown that 84 percent of those who
13 drowned in boating mishaps were not wearing a life jacket; although
14 many boaters stow life jackets on board, there is rarely enough time
15 to properly employ one in the event of an accident; in an effort to
16 increase people's willingness to wear this essential piece of
17 safety equipment, modern life jackets have been designed to be
18 smaller, lighter, and more comfortable; and

19 WHEREAS, Boating accidents happen regardless of one's level
20 of experience, and wearing a life jacket is the most effective way
21 to prevent drowning for veteran and novice boaters alike; now,
22 therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
24 Legislature hereby recognize May 21 to 27, 2011, as National Safe

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1 Boating Week and encourage Texans to wear life jackets at all times
2 while on the water.