

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The Honorable Craig Eiland has rendered exceptional  
2 service to residents of the Lone Star State throughout a nearly  
3 two-decade-long tenure in the Texas House of Representatives; and

4           WHEREAS, First elected in 1994, Representative Eiland has  
5 earned the high regard of colleagues and constituents alike for his  
6 well-informed, incisive leadership and his ability to work across  
7 the aisle; he demonstrated those virtues in abundance in the wake of  
8 Hurricane Ike, which devastated Galveston and Chambers Counties in  
9 September 2008; joining a delegation to Washington, D.C., he  
10 testified about the recovery needs of the Gulf Coast before the  
11 U.S. Senate, and he served on the Governor's Commission for  
12 Disaster Recovery; he also chaired the Hurricane Subcommittee of  
13 the Texas House Appropriations Committee and served on the Select  
14 Committee on Hurricane Ike Devastation; and

15           WHEREAS, Representative Eiland played a crucial role in  
16 securing the resources to rebuild communities, restore beaches, and  
17 repair colleges and public schools; moreover, he was instrumental  
18 in keeping The University of Texas Medical Branch, the largest  
19 employer on Galveston Island, in the city where it was established  
20 more than 130 years ago; ultimately, investment in recovery totaled  
21 well over \$1 billion, including matching funds from private sources  
22 and the Federal Emergency Management Agency; he has tirelessly  
23 advocated for coastal homeowners as well, working to ensure that  
24 resources will be available to them following future disasters in

1 hurricane-prone counties; and

2 WHEREAS, Appointed speaker pro tempore for the 81st Texas  
3 Legislature, Representative Eiland also won praise for his  
4 efficient management of the local and consent calendar that  
5 session, which sped along at a handy clip that was often enhanced by  
6 the thunderous accompaniment of one of his children on the gavel;  
7 widely admired for his ability to keep the legislative process on  
8 track during debate on a highly contentious issue, he is also noted  
9 for his expertise in insurance matters and budget issues, and he has  
10 served four terms as vice chair of the House Insurance Committee and  
11 six terms as a valued member of the House Appropriations Committee;  
12 he has further served as chair of the Pensions and Investments  
13 Committee and as vice chair of the Juvenile Justice and Family  
14 Issues Committee, the Election Contests Select Committees in 2003  
15 and 2005, and the Election Contest District 48 Select Committee in  
16 2011, among many other committee assignments; and

17 WHEREAS, This esteemed Texan has twice been ranked as one of  
18 the "Ten Best Legislators" by *Texas Monthly* magazine, and he has  
19 been named Citizen of the Year by the *Galveston County Daily News*;  
20 the recipient of numerous accolades, he has been selected as  
21 Legislator of the Year by such organizations as the Texas Hospital  
22 Association, the Texas Council of Child Welfare Boards, and the  
23 United Ways of Texas, and he has been accorded the President's Award  
24 by the Texas Public Health Association; the Bay Area Houston  
25 Economic Partnership gave him its 2010 Quasar Award in recognition  
26 of his contributions to the region's recovery from one of the  
27 nation's worst natural disasters; and

1           WHEREAS, Born in 1962, Representative Eiland grew up in West  
2 Texas and lettered in football at Baylor University, where he  
3 completed his bachelor's degree in business administration; he went  
4 on to graduate from Baylor Law School and briefly worked on a cattle  
5 ranch in the Australian outback before settling in Galveston and  
6 joining the state's oldest law firm, Mills, Shirley, Eckel &  
7 Bassett; he was subsequently employed by nationally known Houston  
8 attorney Ernest H. Cannon; he opened his own practice in 1992, and  
9 today his firm has offices in Galveston and Houston and represents  
10 clients in complex litigation in cities across the nation and in a  
11 number of foreign countries; the Baylor Law School chose him as  
12 Young Lawyer of the Year in 1999, and he has been awarded membership  
13 in the American Board of Trial Advocates and the American  
14 Association for Justice; and

15           WHEREAS, Craig Eiland and his wife, Melissa, are the proud  
16 parents of four children, Blake, Tucker, Gray, and Delaney, who  
17 have all exhibited precocious aplomb in wielding the parliamentary  
18 gavel; and

19           WHEREAS, Representative Eiland has announced that he is  
20 retiring from the House of Representatives at the end of his 10th  
21 term, to the delight of his family and the dismay of his colleagues,  
22 who will miss his expertise, good humor, and proven ability to play  
23 well with others; and

24           WHEREAS, Through his steadfast commitment to bettering the  
25 lives of his fellow citizens, Craig Eiland has greatly benefited  
26 the people of Texas and has contributed immeasurably to the  
27 vitality of Gulf Coast communities; as he prepares to embark on the

1 next chapter of his life, he takes with him the friendship of all  
2 who have been privileged to serve alongside him and who take  
3 pleasure in honoring him for a job exceedingly well done; now,  
4 therefore, be it

5         RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
6 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby commend the Honorable Craig  
7 Eiland for his exemplary public service and extend to him warmest  
8 best wishes for continued success and much happiness; and, be it  
9 further

10         RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
11 prepared for Representative Eiland as an expression of high regard  
12 by the Texas House of Representatives.

Pitts

Straus	N. Gonzalez of El Paso	Orr
Allen	Gooden	Otto
Alonzo	Guerra	Paddie
Alvarado	Guillen	Parker
Anchia	Gutierrez	Patrick
Anderson	Harless	Perez
Ashby	Harper-Brown	Perry
Aycock	Hernandez Luna	Phillips
Bell	Herrero	Pickett
Bohac	Hilderbran	Pitts
Bonnen of Brazoria	Howard	Price
Bonnen of Galveston	Huberty	Raney
Branch	Hughes	Ratliff
Burkett	Hunter	Raymond
Burnam	Isaac	Reynolds
Button	Johnson	Riddle
Callegari	Kacal	Ritter
Canales	Keffer	Rodriguez of Bexar
Capriglione	King of Hemphill	Rodriguez of Travis
Carter	King of Parker	Rose
Clardy	King of Taylor	Sanford
Coleman	King of Zavala	Schaefer
Collier	Kleinschmidt	Sheets
Cook	Klick	Sheffield of Bell
Cortez	Kolkhorst	Sheffield of Coryell
Craddick	Krause	Simmons
Creighton	Kuempel	Simpson
Crownover	Larson	Smith
Dale	Laubenberg	Smithee
Darby	Lavender	Springer
J. Davis of Harris	Leach	Stephenson
S. Davis of Harris	Lewis	Stickland
Davis of Dallas	Longoria	Strama
Deshotel	Lozano	Taylor
Dukes	Lucio III	Thompson of Brazoria
Dutton	Marquez	Thompson of Harris
Elkins	Martinez Fischer	Toth
Fallon	Martinez	Turner of Collin
Farias	McClendon	Turner of Harris
Farney	Menendez	Turner of Tarrant
Farrar	Miles	Villalba
Fletcher	Miller of Comal	Villarreal
Flynn	Miller of Fort Bend	Vo
Frank	Moody	Walle
Frullo	Morrison	White
Geren	Munoz, Jr.	Workman
Giddings	Murphy	Wu
Goldman	Naishtat	Zedler
Gonzales	Nevarez	Zerwas
M. Gonzalez of El Paso	Oliveira	

H.R. No. 125

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 125 was adopted by the House on June 25, 2013, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House