

By: Hunter, Herrero, Lozano, Lucio III

H.C.R. No. 56

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The cruise operations in the homeport of Galveston
2 have an enormous economic impact on Texas; the city hosted some
3 655,000 passenger and crew visits in 2011, which accounted for
4 \$1.13 billion in direct spending; in addition, the industry was
5 responsible for generating over 17,300 Texas jobs and paying \$917
6 million in wage income; and

7 WHEREAS, South of Galveston, between Calhoun and Cameron
8 Counties, Texas is home to several growing cities, robust tourism,
9 and a wealth of natural resources; the area also hosts three major
10 deepwater ports, any of which might be a viable site for a cruise
11 line headquarters or a port of embarkation; and

12 WHEREAS, Florida and California, respectively, benefit the
13 most from the North American cruise industry; Florida operates five
14 cruise ports, including Port Canaveral, Port Everglades,
15 Jacksonville, Miami, and Tampa, and California is home to four, in
16 Los Angeles, Long Beach, San Diego, and San Francisco; an
17 additional Texas cruise ship port between Calhoun and Cameron
18 Counties could offer an attractive vacation option for a
19 significant portion of the state's residents and be an economic
20 boon to the state as a whole; now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the 83rd Legislature of the State of Texas
22 hereby request the lieutenant governor and the speaker of the house
23 of representatives to provide for a joint interim legislative study
24 regarding the development of a cruise industry on the Texas coast

1 between Calhoun and Cameron Counties, including its potential
2 economic impact and options for incentives to attract the cruise
3 industry to South Texas; and, be it further

4 RESOLVED, That the committee's proceedings and operations be
5 governed by such general rules and policies for joint interim
6 committees as the 83rd Legislature may adopt.