

1-1 By: Hunter, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Hinojosa) H.C.R. No. 56
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 22, 2013;
 1-3 April 29, 2013, read first time and referred to Committee on
 1-4 Economic Development; May 9, 2013, reported favorably by the
 1-5 following vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; May 9, 2013, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7 Deuell	X			
1-8 Hancock	X			
1-9 Birdwell	X			
1-10 Davis	X			
1-11 Eltife			X	
1-12 Fraser			X	
1-13 Watson	X			

1-15 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-16 WHEREAS, The cruise operations in the homeport of Galveston
 1-17 have an enormous economic impact on Texas; the city hosted some
 1-18 655,000 passenger and crew visits in 2011, which accounted for
 1-19 \$1.13 billion in direct spending; in addition, the industry was
 1-20 responsible for generating over 17,300 Texas jobs and paying \$917
 1-21 million in wage income; and

1-22 WHEREAS, South of Galveston, between Calhoun and Cameron
 1-23 Counties, Texas is home to several growing cities, robust tourism,
 1-24 and a wealth of natural resources; the area also hosts three major
 1-25 deepwater ports, any of which might be a viable site for a cruise
 1-26 line headquarters or a port of embarkation; and

1-27 WHEREAS, Florida and California, respectively, benefit the
 1-28 most from the North American cruise industry; Florida operates five
 1-29 cruise ports, including Port Canaveral, Port Everglades,
 1-30 Jacksonville, Miami, and Tampa, and California is home to four, in
 1-31 Los Angeles, Long Beach, San Diego, and San Francisco; an
 1-32 additional Texas cruise ship port between Calhoun and Cameron
 1-33 Counties could offer an attractive vacation option for a
 1-34 significant portion of the state's residents and be an economic
 1-35 boon to the state as a whole; now, therefore, be it

1-36 RESOLVED, That the 83rd Legislature of the State of Texas
 1-37 hereby request the lieutenant governor and the speaker of the house
 1-38 of representatives to provide for a joint interim legislative study
 1-39 regarding the development of a cruise industry on the Texas coast
 1-40 between Calhoun and Cameron Counties, including its potential
 1-41 economic impact and options for incentives to attract the cruise
 1-42 industry to South Texas; and, be it further

1-43 RESOLVED, That the committee's proceedings and operations be
 1-44 governed by such general rules and policies for joint interim
 1-45 committees as the 83rd Legislature may adopt.

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