

1-1 By: Anchia (Senate Sponsor - Carona) H.C.R. No. 80  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 20, 2013;  
 1-3 May 20, 2013, read first time and referred to Committee on Business  
 1-4 and Commerce; May 21, 2013, reported favorably by the following  
 1-5 vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0; May 21, 2013, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7	X			
1-8				
1-9			X	
1-10	X			
1-11			X	
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			

1-17 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-18 WHEREAS, Since the implementation of the North American Free  
 1-19 Trade Agreement in 1994, trade between the United States and Mexico  
 1-20 has risen dramatically, and as the volume of goods crossing the  
 1-21 border has increased, so have wait times at points of entry; and

1-22 WHEREAS, Mexico is our state's largest trade partner and the  
 1-23 nation's third-largest trade partner; in 2012, more than \$229  
 1-24 billion in trade passed through the Laredo customs district and  
 1-25 over \$86 billion passed through the El Paso customs district;  
 1-26 moreover, the United States and Mexican economies are profoundly  
 1-27 linked because many products are manufactured jointly in Mexico and  
 1-28 the United States, and materials and parts often cross back and  
 1-29 forth between factories on each side of the border during assembly;  
 1-30 and

1-31 WHEREAS, The free flow of commerce across the Mexican border  
 1-32 is of critical importance, but the capacity of the ports of entry to  
 1-33 accommodate the increase in traffic has not kept pace with the  
 1-34 expansion of trade; long and unpredictable wait times leave  
 1-35 vehicles idling for hours during peak times, having a negative  
 1-36 impact on the environment and the health of people living near the  
 1-37 border, as well as on the economy; and

1-38 WHEREAS, Congestion at points of entry along the border costs  
 1-39 the United States and Mexico billions of dollars each year, and  
 1-40 increasing efficiency at these crucial corridors would be a  
 1-41 tremendous benefit to the prosperity of our state and nation; now,  
 1-42 therefore, be it

1-43 RESOLVED, That the 83rd Legislature of the State of Texas  
 1-44 hereby request the lieutenant governor and the speaker of the house  
 1-45 of representatives to create a joint interim committee to study the  
 1-46 effects on international trade of wait times at Texas points of  
 1-47 entry between the United States and Mexico; and, be it further

1-48 RESOLVED, That the committee submit a full report, including  
 1-49 findings and recommendations, to the 84th Texas Legislature when it  
 1-50 convenes in January 2015.

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