

By: Workman

H.R. No. 848

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Locally owned restaurants add to the diversity and  
2 character of Texas towns and cities, and Quality Seafood Market is  
3 celebrating 75 years of serving the Austin community; and

4           WHEREAS, Quality Seafood Market's origin dates back to 1938,  
5 when Garnett Lenz first rented a stall at Starr's Fruit and  
6 Vegetable Market on Congress Avenue to sell fresh seafood from the  
7 Texas coast; he eventually moved his business to Brazos and Third  
8 Streets and expanded his offerings to include specialty items such  
9 as quail eggs and rattlesnake meat; in 1958, Chester Husted, a  
10 frozen foods entrepreneur from Burnet, purchased Mr. Lenz's  
11 business and merged it with his trucking company, Austin Frozen  
12 Foods; Mr. Husted's first kitchen, Quality Seafood, served up to-go  
13 orders on East Avenue, known today as Interstate 35; in 1970, he  
14 moved the business to its current location on Airport Boulevard;  
15 and

16           WHEREAS, Mr. Husted's children took over operations when  
17 their father died in 1982 and turned the kitchen into a sit-down  
18 restaurant; when they sold the business in 1990, the new owner, Sam  
19 Eaves, took advantage of the increasing popularity of fresh seafood  
20 among chefs and diners and offered local seasonal favorites like  
21 Texas drum, shrimp, and oysters alongside salmon, halibut, and sea  
22 bass; in 2003, Mr. Eaves sold the restaurant to Paul and Carol  
23 Huntsberger, who changed its name to Quality Seafood Market,  
24 continued to expand the menu, and added a catering business; today,

1 Ms. Huntsberger is the sole owner of the restaurant, and it remains  
2 a favorite community institution; and

3 WHEREAS, The restaurant's 43 dedicated employees include Tom  
4 Cantu, who began as a delivery driver in 1960; though he officially  
5 retired in 1997, Mr. Cantu continues to come in several times a week  
6 to take orders, help with paperwork, and even make deliveries; and

7 WHEREAS, The well-being of the people of Texas depends on a  
8 vibrant economy, and independent businesses like Quality Seafood  
9 Market that are rooted in their communities and employ area  
10 residents are important components of a prosperous future; now,  
11 therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
13 Legislature hereby commemorate the 75th anniversary of Quality  
14 Seafood Market in Austin and extend to all those associated with the  
15 restaurant sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it  
16 further

17 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
18 prepared for Quality Seafood Market as an expression of high regard  
19 by the Texas House of Representatives.