

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Rudolf Simon Bekink, the Dutch ambassador to the  
2 United States, is visiting the State Capitol on May 9, 2013, and  
3 this occasion provides a fitting opportunity to commend him for his  
4 achievements and to celebrate the vibrant trade relationship  
5 between the United States and the Netherlands; and

6           WHEREAS, Born in the town of Assen, Netherlands, Ambassador  
7 Bekink completed his master of arts degree in economics at the  
8 University of Groningen in 1974, and two years later, he began his  
9 distinguished career with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; he was  
10 posted to Greece, Angola, and the East Asia Division before joining  
11 his country's embassy in Washington from 1982 to 1986; and

12           WHEREAS, Ambassador Bekink later served in Ghana and France,  
13 as well as in positions in his home country; before becoming U.S.  
14 ambassador, he served as ambassador to Sweden, Belgium, and the  
15 People's Republic of China; he is the father of three sons, and in  
16 August 2011, he formed a personal link to the Lone Star State with  
17 his marriage to Austin business executive Gabrielle de Kuyper; and

18           WHEREAS, The Netherlands is the third largest foreign  
19 investor in the United States, with more than \$217 billion in direct  
20 investment; in turn, our nation accounts for over \$521 billion in  
21 direct investment in the Netherlands; Dutch firms have created  
22 nearly 350,000 jobs in the United States, and approximately 280,000  
23 additional U.S. jobs have been created by exports to the  
24 Netherlands; and

1           WHEREAS, Both the United States and the Netherlands benefit  
2 greatly from this dynamic and enduring trade relationship, and it  
3 is indeed a pleasure to honor Ambassador Bekink at this time; now,  
4 therefore, be it

5           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
6 Legislature hereby welcome Ambassador Rudolf Bekink to the State  
7 Capitol and call on all Texans to recognize the importance of the  
8 strong economic ties between the United States and the Netherlands;  
9 and, be it further

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

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H.R. No. 1056

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1056 was adopted by the House on March 27, 2013, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House