

By: Walle

H.R. No. 1686

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Many individuals concerned for the safety of Texas  
2 workers are gathering at the State Capitol on April 25, 2013, in  
3 observance of Workers' Memorial Day; and

4           WHEREAS, Workers' Memorial Day is an internationally  
5 recognized day of remembrance for men and women who have been  
6 injured or killed while performing their jobs, and this occasion is  
7 a solemn reminder of the crucial need to make workplaces safer; and

8           WHEREAS, While the construction industry constitutes a key  
9 pillar of the Texas economy, employing more than one million  
10 workers and accounting for five percent of the state's economic  
11 output, the construction trade is the deadliest in the state;  
12 construction workers in Texas are 4.5 times more likely to be killed  
13 on the job than the average Texas worker, and although construction  
14 workers account for only 6 percent of the state's workforce, they  
15 make up 26 percent of total workplace fatalities; across the  
16 country, more workers die on the job in the construction industry  
17 than in any other sector, and more construction workers die in Texas  
18 than in any other state; and

19           WHEREAS, Community organizations throughout the nation are  
20 working to create safer work environments; in the Lone Star State,  
21 the Workers Defense Project, based in Austin and Dallas, helps  
22 empower low-income employees by providing them with the resources  
23 they need to improve their working and living conditions; through  
24 its advocacy, grassroots organizing, and direct services, the WDP

1 has educated workers and contractors about their respective rights  
2 and spurred regulatory agencies to increase their safety  
3 inspections; and

4 WHEREAS, Workers in every field can safely perform their jobs  
5 if they receive the necessary training and equipment and if the  
6 highest standards of safety are upheld, and it is imperative that  
7 employers, employees, and organizations across the Lone Star State  
8 and the country work together to ensure that worker safety receives  
9 the attention and support that it deserves; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
11 Legislature hereby recognize April 25, 2013, as Workers' Memorial  
12 Day at the State Capitol and pay tribute to the men and women who  
13 have given their lives to build our great state; and, be it further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
15 prepared for the Workers Defense Project as an expression of high  
16 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.