

By: Larson

H.R. No. 1754

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, National Safe Boating Week is being observed from  
2 May 18 to 24, 2013; and

3           WHEREAS, Recreational boating, including fishing and  
4 waterskiing, is an immensely popular summer sport among Texans, and  
5 waterways can quickly become crowded, resulting in confusion,  
6 unforeseen risks, and, too often, tragedy; and

7           WHEREAS, According to the National Safe Boating Council, 700  
8 people die each year in boating-related accidents in the United  
9 States, and approximately 70 percent of these fatalities are caused  
10 by drowning; the vast majority of accidents occur because of human  
11 error or poor judgment and can be easily prevented; recreational  
12 boaters should never operate a boat while under the influence of  
13 alcohol or drugs; and

14           WHEREAS, Statistics have shown that about 80 percent of those  
15 who drowned in boating mishaps were not wearing a life jacket;  
16 although many boaters stow life jackets on board, there is rarely  
17 enough time to properly employ one in the event of an accident; in  
18 an effort to increase people's willingness to wear this essential  
19 piece of safety equipment, modern life jackets have been designed  
20 to be smaller, lighter, and more comfortable; and

21           WHEREAS, Boating accidents happen regardless of one's level  
22 of experience, and wearing a life jacket is the most effective way  
23 to prevent drowning for veteran and novice boaters alike; now,  
24 therefore, be it

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1           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
2 Legislature hereby recognize May 18 to 24, 2013, as National Safe  
3 Boating Week and encourage Texans to wear life jackets at all times  
4 while on the water.