

By: Bonnen of Brazoria

H.R. No. 1785

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Sunset Advisory Commission was the 2012 winner
2 of the National Conference of State Legislatures Excellence in
3 Evaluation Award; and

4 WHEREAS, The Texas Legislature established the sunset
5 commission in 1977 to provide an ongoing evaluation of government
6 performance and efficiency; the commission reviews the programs and
7 policies of more than 150 state agencies and submits a series of
8 recommendations to the legislature to eliminate waste and
9 unnecessary overlap in services; since its inception, 78 agencies
10 have been abolished, with 41 of them consolidated with other
11 agencies to cut administrative duplication; these and other
12 commission-proposed actions have amounted to a reduction in
13 spending of an estimated \$945 million during the past three
14 decades, equivalent to a return of \$29 for every \$1 spent on the
15 sunset process; and

16 WHEREAS, In 2012, the commission was presented with the
17 Excellence in Evaluation Award by the National Conference of State
18 Legislatures, a bipartisan organization led by lawmakers and
19 legislative staff from across the country; the award recognized the
20 sunset commission's substantial body of work during the 2008 to
21 2011 review period, which involved recommendations to improve the
22 functions of several major state agencies, including the Texas
23 Department of Transportation, the Railroad Commission of Texas, and
24 the Texas Water Development Board; in addition to citing the

1 extensive positive impact of the adopted measures for the citizens
2 of Texas, NCSL singled out the commission's quality analytical
3 methods and superior written and verbal communication as reasons
4 for its selection; and

5 WHEREAS, The Sunset Advisory Commission was also honored with
6 a 2012 Impact Award by NCSL's National Legislative Program
7 Evaluation Society, for which its work was assessed by peer
8 organizations throughout the United States; considered a leader in
9 program evaluation both nationally and internationally, the
10 commission has hosted 11 foreign delegations representing 22
11 countries seeking to learn more about the sunset process; and

12 WHEREAS, By prioritizing the transparent and productive use
13 of resources, the Sunset Advisory Commission has enabled our state
14 government to more effectively serve the needs of its citizens, and
15 this prestigious accolade rightly acknowledges the tremendous
16 value of its contributions; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
18 Legislature hereby congratulate the Sunset Advisory Commission on
19 its receipt of the Excellence in Evaluation Award from the National
20 Conference of State Legislatures and commend the commission's
21 members and staff for their diligent work in behalf of state
22 taxpayers; and, be it further

23 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
24 prepared for the commission as an expression of high regard by the
25 Texas House of Representatives.