

By: Flynn

H.R. No. 2676

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing is a
2 global problem with serious economic, environmental, and security
3 implications; and

4 WHEREAS, Worldwide, illegal fishing accounts for economic
5 losses of up to \$23 billion per year; such activity is largely
6 conducted by foreign fleets at the expense of United States
7 fishermen, coastal communities, and the sustainability of global
8 fish stocks; and

9 WHEREAS, Illegal fishing is of particular consequence in
10 Texas, where the Gulf Coast waters supply seafood for the American
11 public and support the hospitality industry, tourism-related
12 businesses, and vibrant recreational fishing; not only does illegal
13 fishing result in economic losses to the Texas fishing industry and
14 other coastal businesses, but it also is a threat to the
15 sustainability of our fisheries and to the Texas Gulf Coast
16 ecosystem; and

17 WHEREAS, Vessels involved with illegal fishing are also
18 associated with other crimes, including drug trafficking, human
19 trafficking, and illegal immigration, and the incursion by these
20 foreign fishing vessels into U.S. waters constitutes a violation of
21 our sovereignty; now, therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
23 Legislature hereby express its commitment to the elimination of
24 illegal fishing, to the long-term conservation of Texas marine

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1 resources, and to the protection of the Texas Gulf Coast fishing and
2 coastal communities.