## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, On September 17, 1787, our nation's foundational document was signed by 39 brave men who changed the course of history, and each year, we celebrate the anniversary of that momentous milestone as Constitution Day; and

WHEREAS, This important observance was established in 2004, when the U.S. Congress passed a bill designating September 17 as the day for citizens to reflect upon the ideals of freedom set forth and realized in the U.S. Constitution; in addition, the legislation requires the teaching of the Constitution in schools so that our future generations will understand the importance of this document, which embodies liberty and freedom; and

WHEREAS, The world's oldest written national charter of government, the Constitution created the framework for federal governance, and its opening words, "We the People," affirm that the government of the United States exists to serve the country's citizens; the framers wisely separated and balanced governmental powers to safeguard the principle of majority rule and minority rights, the ideals of liberty and equality, and the interests of the federal and state governments; and

WHEREAS, In its first three articles, the Constitution established a Republic representative form of government composed of three separate branches, the legislative, executive, and judicial; a system of checks and balances limits the powers of each branch; two years after the signing, 10 amendments, known as the
Bill of Rights, were added to guarantee specific civil liberties;
and

WHEREAS, A covenant that continues to shape our daily lives, the U.S. Constitution has served as the cornerstone of our republic for more than two centuries, and it has become an internationally celebrated model for creating a system of government of the people, by the people, and for the people; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas Legislature hereby recognize September 17, 2014, as Constitution Day and encourage all Texans to learn more about the United States Constitution and its vital role in the preservation of the rights and freedoms of all Americans.

