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H.C.R. No. 57

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The efficient exploration, production, and
2 transportation of oil in Texas prevents waste of the state's
3 natural resources, contributes to the health, welfare, and safety
4 of the general public, and promotes the prosperity of the state; and

5 WHEREAS, The tax revenues and economic prosperity deriving
6 from this Texas energy renaissance have greatly benefited Texas
7 public schools, higher education, critical infrastructure
8 development, and public health and safety programs; and

9 WHEREAS, Improved technologies and abundant resources have
10 made America the world's leading oil and natural gas producer,
11 overtaking Saudi Arabia and Russia; and

12 WHEREAS, The 1970s-era federal law prohibiting crude oil
13 exports is a relic from an era of scarcity and flawed price control
14 policies; and

15 WHEREAS, Allowing American crude oil exports will strengthen
16 U.S. geopolitical influence by giving our trading partners a more
17 secure source of supply, and allowing the export of American crude
18 oil will make our allies less dependent on crude oil from Russia and
19 the Middle East; and

20 WHEREAS, The world's other major developed nations allow
21 crude oil exports, making America the only nation that does not take
22 full advantage of trading a valuable resource in what is an
23 otherwise global free market; and

24 WHEREAS, Crude oil exports will benefit America's national

1 security interests by decreasing the likelihood that global oil
2 supply can be used internationally as a strategic weapon; and

3 WHEREAS, Numerous studies have found that allowing American
4 crude oil into the world's free market will benefit U.S. trade and
5 American consumers while creating more high-paying jobs for Texans
6 to fill; and

7 WHEREAS, According to an analysis by the American Petroleum
8 Institute, Texas will lead all states in job growth following the
9 repeal of the ban, with an estimated 40,291 jobs by 2020; and

10 WHEREAS, Other studies have similarly found tremendous
11 prospective GDP growth from lifting the 1970s-era ban; and

12 WHEREAS, The United States is the largest exporter of refined
13 petroleum products and would benefit even more substantially from
14 the export of both crude oil and refined petroleum products; and

15 WHEREAS, At least seven independent studies have confirmed
16 that repealing the ban on American crude oil exports will lower U.S.
17 gas prices, benefiting Texas consumers and businesses; and

18 WHEREAS, Thousands of small and large Texas businesses that
19 support oil and gas development will benefit from ongoing
20 production; and

21 WHEREAS, Manufacturers will benefit from less volatility in
22 energy costs; and

23 WHEREAS, The technology and brainpower behind the American
24 energy renaissance was mostly pioneered in Texas by Texans; and

25 WHEREAS, Encouraging a global marketplace that is more free
26 from artificial barriers will better allow the export of Texas
27 leadership and expertise, which will also ultimately economically

1 benefit Texas, the rest of the United States, and our friends around
2 the world; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the 84th Legislature of the State of Texas
4 hereby urge the United States Congress and the president of the
5 United States to recognize that crude oil exports and free trade are
6 in the national interest and take all necessary steps to eliminate
7 the current ban on crude oil exports; and, be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official
9 copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to
10 the U.S. secretary of commerce, to the U.S. secretary of energy, to
11 the majority leader of the Senate and the speaker of the House of
12 Representatives of the United States Congress, and to all the
13 members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that
14 this resolution be entered in the Congressional Record as a
15 memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.