

By: Peña

H.C.R. No. 80

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1           WHEREAS, The famed Battleship *Texas*, which sits moored at the  
2 San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site under the care of the  
3 Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, is a national treasure that  
4 played a prominent role in American successes in both World War I  
5 and World War II; and

6           WHEREAS, The "Mighty T" was considered to be one of the most  
7 powerful weapons in the world when it was commissioned on March 12,  
8 1914; the ship saw action off the North African coast near Morocco,  
9 at Normandy on D-Day, and at Iwo Jima and Okinawa in the Pacific  
10 Theater before being decommissioned on April 21, 1948; suffering  
11 only one combat casualty in its many campaigns, the *Texas* earned the  
12 nickname the "Lucky Ship"; and

13           WHEREAS, The Battleship *Texas* was a harbinger of America's  
14 rise as an industrialized nation on the verge of becoming a world  
15 power; in 1916, it became the first U.S. battleship to mount  
16 antiaircraft guns as well as the first to employ directors and  
17 range-keepers to control gunfire; other firsts followed, as the  
18 *Texas* became the first U.S. battleship to launch an airplane, in  
19 1919, and the first navy ship to be fitted for commercial radar, in  
20 1939; and

21           WHEREAS, A National Historic Landmark and the flagship of the  
22 Texas Navy, the Battleship *Texas* is a living memorial to the brave  
23 men who served aboard it over the course of more than three decades;  
24 even in repose, it continues to play an important role in the lives

1 of Texans and other Americans, and it is crucial that we preserve  
2 this vital link to our nation's past; now, therefore, be it

3       RESOLVED, That the 84th Legislature of the State of Texas  
4 hereby respectfully urge the Congress of the United States to  
5 provide federal funding for repairs to the Battleship *Texas*; and,  
6 be it further

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