

1-1 By: Hunter (Senate Sponsor - Lucio) H.C.R. No. 108
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 18, 2015;
 1-3 May 18, 2015, read first time and referred to Committee on Natural
 1-4 Resources and Economic Development; May 22, 2015, reported
 1-5 favorably by the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 2; May 22, 2015,
 1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11			X	
1-12		X		
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17		X		
1-18	X			
1-19	X			

1-20 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-21 WHEREAS, The cruise operations in the home port of Galveston
 1-22 have an enormous economic impact on Texas; the city hosted more than
 1-23 900,000 passenger and crew visits in 2013, which accounted for \$1.2
 1-24 billion in direct spending; in addition, the industry was
 1-25 responsible for generating over 20,000 Texas jobs and paying \$1.16
 1-26 billion in wage income; and

1-27 WHEREAS, South of Galveston, between Calhoun and Cameron
 1-28 Counties, from the tip of the Golden Crescent, along the Coastal
 1-29 Bend, to the Lower Rio Grande Valley, Texas is home to several
 1-30 growing cities, robust tourism, and a wealth of natural resources;
 1-31 the area, with more than 150 miles of Gulf shoreline, also harbors
 1-32 three major deepwater ports, any of which might be a viable site for
 1-33 a cruise line headquarters or a port of embarkation; and

1-34 WHEREAS, Florida and California, respectively, benefit the
 1-35 most from the North American cruise industry; Florida operates five
 1-36 cruise ports, including Port Canaveral, Port Everglades,
 1-37 Jacksonville, Miami, and Tampa, and California is home to four, in
 1-38 Los Angeles, Long Beach, San Diego, and San Francisco; an
 1-39 additional Texas cruise ship port between Calhoun and Cameron
 1-40 Counties could offer an attractive vacation option for a
 1-41 significant portion of the state's residents and be an economic
 1-42 boon to the state as a whole; now, therefore, be it

1-43 RESOLVED, That the 84th Legislature of the State of Texas
 1-44 hereby request the lieutenant governor and the speaker of the house
 1-45 of representatives to create a joint interim committee to conduct a
 1-46 study regarding the development of a cruise industry on the Texas
 1-47 coast between Calhoun and Cameron Counties, including its potential
 1-48 economic impact and options for incentives to attract the cruise
 1-49 industry to South Texas; and, be it further

1-50 RESOLVED, That the committee's proceedings and operations be
 1-51 governed by such general rules and policies for joint interim
 1-52 committees as the 84th Legislature may adopt.

1-53 * * * * *