

By: Wu

H.C.R. No. 127

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The Westchase District in Houston is celebrating its  
2 20th anniversary in 2015, and this special milestone provides a  
3 fitting opportunity to take note of the success of this unique  
4 neighborhood; and

5 WHEREAS, This business management district was established  
6 by the 74th Texas Legislature in 1995 with the passage of S.B. 1601,  
7 authored by J. E. "Buster" Brown and sponsored by Sylvester Turner,  
8 and of H.B. 3204, authored by Joe Nixon; governed by a volunteer  
9 board of property owners and representatives, the district has  
10 maintained an assessment rate of 0.9 percent since its inception,  
11 and it is home to some 2,000 businesses, including such major  
12 employers as Aker Solutions, BMC Software, Cameron International,  
13 Phillips 66, Samsung Engineering, Halliburton, and other  
14 enterprises; since the district's creation, the assessed value of  
15 its buildings and land has grown from \$850 million in 1995 to \$4.2  
16 billion today; and

17 WHEREAS, Improvements in Westchase through the years have  
18 included the planting of thousands of trees, shrubs, and flowering  
19 plants, as well as the installation of custom-branded street signs  
20 and mobility enhancements to the area's roads and streets and the  
21 creation of the Library Loop trail; the district employs 30 police  
22 officers who supplement the work of the Houston Police Department,  
23 providing 15,000 additional hours of patrols each year; and

24 WHEREAS, The district's annual Corporate Challenge,

1 Wonderland in Westchase, and Summer Food Drive help to engage  
2 businesses and residents, and its charitable organization, the  
3 Westchase District Community Fund, has donated more than \$200,000  
4 to local organizations; an e-newsletter, *The Wire*, reaches 10,000  
5 readers twice a month, and a farmer's market each week provides  
6 residents and employees with locally grown fresh produce; and

7         WHEREAS, The Westchase District includes parts of the house  
8 districts of Representatives Jim Murphy, Gene Wu, Hubert Vo, Borris  
9 Miles, Alma Allen, Sarah Davis, and John Zerwas, as well as parts of  
10 the senate districts of Senators Joan Huffman, Paul Bettencourt,  
11 and Rodney Ellis; and

12         WHEREAS, For two decades, the Westchase District has  
13 contributed to the prosperity of Houston, creating a welcoming  
14 environment for many successful businesses and a comfortable  
15 setting for those who live or work in the area; now, therefore, be  
16 it

17         RESOLVED, That the 84th Legislature of the State of Texas  
18 hereby commemorate the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the  
19 Westchase District and extend to its governing board, business  
20 owners, and residents sincere best wishes for continued success.