

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The Amistad International Reservoir, situated on
2 the Texas-Mexico border near Del Rio, supplies water to numerous
3 area communities for municipal, industrial, and agricultural
4 purposes; yet, with a salt content near the upper limit of the Texas
5 standard for drinking water, the reservoir may become an unusable
6 resource for all; and

7 WHEREAS, Two of its main tributaries, the Rio Grande and the
8 Pecos River, are heavily saturated with salt due to the composition
9 of the surrounding land, which was once part of a great inland sea;
10 when dry land emerged, salt from the sea was trapped in the soil and
11 in underground aquifers; originating in New Mexico, the Pecos
12 River, in particular, is one of the most saline waterways in North
13 America and accounts for almost 30 percent of the salt loading of
14 the reservoir; and

15 WHEREAS, The upper limit of Texas drinking water standards
16 for minerals including salt is 1,000 milligrams per liter; when
17 that limit is exceeded, municipalities that rely on water released
18 into the Rio Grande from the Amistad Reservoir will face costly
19 treatment methods to meet state standards; moreover, the elevated
20 levels of salt may force farmers to discontinue the growth of
21 certain crops; while fresh water inflow from runoff could help
22 alleviate the salinity, the potential for such runoff is limited;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, The Amistad International Reservoir is shared by the

1 United States and Mexico, in accordance with the terms of a 1944
2 treaty; for that reason and because the reservoir's holdings derive
3 from multiple states, it is incumbent on the national government to
4 take the lead in addressing this urgent problem; and

5 WHEREAS, Congress began that process by enacting Section 729
6 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1986 and by
7 developing a program under Section 5056 of WRDA of 2007,
8 Pub. L. No. 110-114, that directs the secretary of the army to
9 rehabilitate and enhance fish and wildlife habitats and to
10 implement long-term monitoring, data collection and analysis,
11 applied research, and adaptive management within the Rio Grande
12 Basin; and

13 WHEREAS, Past studies must be evaluated to determine a
14 strategy for moving forward; in addition, it is imperative that
15 funding and continuing authority for Section 5056 of WRDA of 2007,
16 which was extended until 2019 in Section 4006 of the Water Resources
17 Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) of 2014, be fully funded so that
18 efforts to solve the salt problem in the reservoir can continue;
19 now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the 84th Legislature of the State of Texas
21 hereby recognize the secretary of the army for the work on the
22 Amistad International Reservoir and for the effort to continue to
23 find funds to carry out work related to Section 4006 of the Water
24 Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014.

Nevárez

Straus	González	Otto
Allen	Guerra	Paddie
Alonzo	Guillen	Parker
Alvarado	Gutierrez	Paul
Anchia	Harless	Peña
Anderson of Dallas	Hernandez	Phelan
Anderson of McLennan	Herrero	Phillips
Ashby	Howard	Pickett
Aycock	Huberty	Price
Bell	Hughes	Raney
Bernal	Hunter	Raymond
Blanco	Isaac	Reynolds
Bohac	Israel	Riddle
Bonnen of Brazoria	Johnson	Rinaldi
Bonnen of Galveston	Kacal	Rodriguez of Bexar
Burkett	Keffer	Rodriguez of Travis
Burns	Keough	Romero, Jr.
Burrows	King of Hemphill	Rose
Button	King of Parker	Sanford
Canales	King of Taylor	Schaefer
Capriglione	King of Uvalde	Schofield
Clardy	Klick	Schubert
Coleman	Koop	Shaheen
Collier	Krause	Sheets
Cook	Kuempel	Sheffield
Craddick	Landgraf	Simmons
Crownover	Larson	Simpson
Cyrier	Laubenberg	Smith
Dale	Leach	Smithee
Darby	Longoria	Spitzer
Davis of Dallas	Lozano	Springer
Davis of Harris	Lucio III	Stephenson
Deshotel	Márquez	Stickland
Dukes	Martinez	Thompson of Brazoria
Dutton	Martinez Fischer	Thompson of Harris
Elkins	McClendon	Tinderholt
Faircloth	Metcalf	Turner of Collin
Fallon	Meyer	Turner of Harris
Farias	Miles	Turner of Tarrant
Farney	Miller of Comal	VanDeaver
Farrar	Miller of Fort Bend	Villalba
Fletcher	Minjarez	Vo
Flynn	Moody	Walle
Frank	Morrison	White of Bell
Frullo	Muñoz, Jr.	White of Tyler
Galindo	Murphy	Workman
Geren	Murr	Wray
Giddings	Naishtat	Wu
Goldman	Nevárez	Zedler
Gonzales	Oliveira	Zerwas

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 145 was adopted by the House on May 31, 2015, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 145 was adopted by the Senate on June 1, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____
Date

Governor