

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Texas State Aquarium in Corpus Christi is an
2 outstanding institution that is committed to connecting people with
3 nature and promoting conservation of the Gulf of Mexico; and

4 WHEREAS, After two decades of planning and fund-raising, TSA
5 first opened the doors to its original Gulf of Mexico exhibit in
6 1990; over the years, many new permanent and special exhibits have
7 been introduced, allowing spectators to see a live bald eagle, to
8 touch and feed stingrays, to watch Atlantic bottlenose dolphins
9 play, and to get an underwater view of the habitat formed around an
10 oil platform in the Gulf; the aquarium also features a splash park,
11 an artificial fossil dig site for uncovering casts of prehistoric
12 animal bones, and the Hawn Wild Flight Theater, with presentations
13 featuring trained birds, and in 2014, it announced an expansion
14 project that will more than double the size of the facilities; and

15 WHEREAS, In addition to entertaining and delighting
16 visitors, this private, not-for-profit institution gives back to
17 the community through its education and conservation programs;
18 field trips, summer camps, and distance learning empower Texans of
19 all ages to discover more about nature and marine wildlife, while
20 the Second Chances Wildlife Rehabilitation Program provides care
21 for ill or injured shorebirds, birds of prey, marine mammals, and
22 sea turtles, returning them to their natural habitats whenever
23 possible; furthermore, the aquarium coordinates beach cleanups
24 three times a year, fosters awareness of Texas watersheds with its

1 Keepers of the Coast program, and awards grants through its
2 Wildlife Care, Conservation, and Research Fund; and

3 WHEREAS, TSA has been honored with numerous accolades,
4 including the Outstanding Public-Private Partnership Award from
5 Mutual of America, the Munson Aquatic Conservation Exhibitory Award
6 from the American Zoo and Aquarium Association, and the
7 Conservation and Environmental Stewardship Award for Public
8 Awareness from the Coastal Bend Bays Foundation; in 2014, it became
9 one of only six aquariums in the nation to earn a prestigious
10 four-star rating from Charity Navigator; and

11 WHEREAS, By encouraging Texans to appreciate the diversity
12 and vulnerability of marine life, the aquarium is making a
13 significant contribution to the Lone Star State, and the efforts
14 and achievements of all involved in this worthy endeavor indeed
15 merit special commendation; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
17 Legislature hereby recognize February 10, 2015, as Texas State
18 Aquarium Day and extend to all those associated with the aquarium
19 sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
21 prepared for the Texas State Aquarium as an expression of high
22 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.

Herrero
Hunter
Lozano

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

H.R. No. 354

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 354 was adopted by the House on February 10, 2015, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House