

By: Hunter

H.R. No. 438

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico
2 Studies at Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi has been named the
3 lead institution of Texas OneGulf, a research consortium
4 established under the federal RESTORE Act to promote the
5 conservation and sustainable use of the Gulf of Mexico; and

6 WHEREAS, Responding to the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill,
7 the U.S. Congress adopted, and the president signed into law, the
8 Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities,
9 and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States (RESTORE) Act in
10 2012; the Act created a trust fund, using fines resulting from the
11 Deepwater Horizon disaster, to support initiatives to rehabilitate
12 and preserve the Gulf of Mexico; it also provided for the creation
13 of Centers of Excellence in each of the five Gulf Coast states to
14 conduct research and monitoring operations that can help guide
15 restoration efforts; the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
16 has named Texas OneGulf as one of two Centers of Excellence in the
17 State of Texas; Texas OneGulf is composed of key marine
18 institutions across the state and is led by the Harte Research
19 Institute; and

20 WHEREAS, Created in 2000, the Harte Research Institute is the
21 only marine research organization whose work focuses solely on the
22 Gulf of Mexico, the ninth-largest body of water in the world;
23 bringing together experts from the three countries that border the
24 Gulf, the institute is dedicated to finding science-driven

1 solutions to Gulf problems and to assisting the response to
2 Gulf-related emergencies stemming from both natural and man-made
3 disasters; the institute has been under the direction of Dr. Larry
4 McKinney since 2008; and

5 WHEREAS, Conditions in the Gulf of Mexico have a significant
6 impact on the economy and environment of Texas and on the health and
7 well-being of Texas citizens, and through its efforts to expand our
8 knowledge of the Gulf and to address critical issues concerning the
9 Gulf, the Harte Research Institute is making an immeasurable
10 contribution to the strength and vitality of the Lone Star State;
11 now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
13 Legislature hereby congratulate the Harte Research Institute for
14 Gulf of Mexico Studies on being named the lead organization of Texas
15 OneGulf, a RESTORE Act Center of Excellence, and extend to all those
16 involved in the institute and the Texas OneGulf consortium sincere
17 best wishes for success with their important work; and, be it
18 further

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