

By: Hunter

H.R. No. 655

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Civic and business leaders of the Coastal Bend are
2 gathering in Austin on February 25, 2015, to celebrate the many
3 qualities that make their region one of the state's premier
4 vacation destinations; and

5 WHEREAS, Each year, the Coastal Bend draws more than 8.6
6 million travelers from across the country and around the globe; in
7 Corpus Christi alone, approximately 7.4 million guests
8 collectively spend nearly 20 million days visiting the city,
9 thereby infusing over \$1.2 billion into the local economy and
10 supporting some 29,000 jobs; and

11 WHEREAS, The myriad popular attractions in the area include
12 the Padre Island National Seashore, the Texas State Aquarium, and
13 the South Texas Botanical Gardens and Nature Center, with its 182
14 acres of tropical flowers, butterflies, and parrots; in addition,
15 visitors enjoy such cultural and educational venues as the Art
16 Museum of South Texas, the Corpus Christi Museum of Science and
17 History, and the USS *Lexington* aircraft carrier; the Coastal Bend
18 also hosts many youth and amateur sporting events; and

19 WHEREAS, Tourism is a mainstay of the state economy as a
20 whole, generating billions of dollars in state and local tax
21 revenue while bolstering businesses related to transportation,
22 retail sales, dining, and entertainment; the Coastal Bend area
23 contributes significantly to the vibrancy of this industry in the
24 Lone Star State, and its residents may indeed take pride in the rich

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1 heritage and natural beauty that bring so many visitors to their
2 communities; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
4 Legislature hereby recognize February 25, 2015, as Coastal Bend Day
5 at the State Capitol and extend to the region's delegation sincere
6 best wishes for a memorable and enjoyable event.