

By: Herrero

H.R. No. 898

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Texas State Aquarium in Corpus Christi is
2 celebrating the 30th anniversary of its designation as the Official
3 Aquarium of Texas in 2015; and

4 WHEREAS, A project launched by the Junior League of Corpus
5 Christi and the local Jaycees in 1969, the aquarium gained early
6 support from members of Leadership Corpus Christi Alumni, the Earl
7 C. Sams Foundation, and the Brown Foundation of Houston; the Texas
8 Legislature conferred the official designation in 1985, and the
9 aquarium opened to the public five years later; and

10 WHEREAS, The aquarium has flourished as a private,
11 not-for-profit organization, maintaining its operations through
12 general admissions, memberships, retail sales, event rentals, and
13 the generosity of donors; in addition to exhibitions, it sponsors
14 education, conservation, and wildlife rehabilitation; over the
15 years, it has worked to save protected, threatened, and endangered
16 species, and it has cared for countless stranded or injured
17 creatures, among them marine mammals, sea turtles, raptors, and
18 shorebirds; and

19 WHEREAS, In 2014, the aquarium opened the Nearshore
20 Experience, an immersive indoor exhibit, and it hosted the
21 groundbreaking for an expansion project that will more than double
22 the size of the institution; the institution also became one of only
23 six aquariums in the nation to achieve Charity Navigator's
24 prestigious four-star rating for good governance, sound fiscal

1 management, accountability, and transparency; and

2 WHEREAS, The Texas State Aquarium is dedicated to connecting
3 people with nature and promoting the conservation of the Gulf of
4 Mexico, and as it celebrates this significant milestone in its
5 history, it is moving forward with plans to become an even more
6 valuable asset to the community, the state, and the Gulf Coast
7 region; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
9 Legislature hereby congratulate the Texas State Aquarium on the
10 30th anniversary of its designation as the Official Aquarium of
11 Texas and extend to all those associated with this noteworthy
12 organization sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it
13 further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
15 prepared for the aquarium as an expression of high regard by the
16 Texas House of Representatives.