

By: Lucio III

H.R. No. 1428

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, At a time of prolonged statewide drought, the
2 availability and sustainability of water resources is an issue of
3 ever more pressing concern, especially as population growth is set
4 to place greater stress on water supplies in the coming years; and

5 WHEREAS, The Texas Water Development Board has estimated that
6 the state's demand for water will increase by 22 percent by 2060,
7 from around 18 million acre-feet to 22 million acre-feet, and that
8 existing water supplies will decrease by about 10 percent, from
9 approximately 17 million acre-feet to 15.3 million acre-feet; and

10 WHEREAS, One of the most cost-effective solutions to this
11 challenge is water conservation, which includes not only the
12 reduction of overall demand for water but also the increased
13 efficiency of water systems; a poll conducted in 2014 by the Texas
14 Water Foundation found that close to half of respondents were aware
15 of the anticipated shortage, but only 30 percent felt that they were
16 doing everything they could to eliminate unnecessary water use; and

17 WHEREAS, The Water Conservation Advisory Council was created
18 in 2007 to build a repository of best conservation practices and to
19 report biennially to the legislature on water conservation efforts;
20 the 2010 State Water Plan projects that 8.3 million acre-feet of
21 additional water supply will be required by 2060, and a number of
22 strategies have been put forth to help lessen this deficit,
23 including increased energy efficiency, reservoir development,
24 desalination, water reuse, and smart water management; and

1 WHEREAS, Some regional water plans also set ambitious targets
2 for improvement in order to match water demand with water supply; in
3 addition, most cities are required by state law to prepare written
4 water conservation plans, and several have adopted exemplary
5 programs to this end; and

6 WHEREAS, Education about water-saving habits and practices
7 is key to reducing the consumption of water by consumers,
8 municipalities, and agricultural and industrial enterprises;
9 taking the lead in providing such education are the Texas Water
10 Development Board, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality,
11 the Parks and Wildlife Department, the Department of Agriculture,
12 the Texas Water Foundation, and the Water Conservation Advisory
13 Council; moreover, groundwater conservation districts, water
14 utilities, irrigation districts, river authorities, communities,
15 businesses, nonprofit organizations, and individuals are involved
16 in this vital initiative as well; and

17 WHEREAS, Ensuring an adequate water supply for our growing
18 population is a goal made possible with the support of every Texas
19 citizen, business, and organization, and the observance of Texas
20 Water Conservation Day reminds us of the need to remain diligent in
21 our stewardship of this precious and finite resource; now,
22 therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
24 Legislature hereby recognize March 26, 2015, as Texas Water
25 Conservation Day at the State Capitol and urge all Texans to learn
26 more about the steps they can take to reduce water usage in their
27 daily lives.