

By: Price

H.R. No. 3634

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, National Hospital Week is taking place from May 8 to  
2 14, 2016, and this occasion provides a welcome opportunity to  
3 recognize those vital institutions that contribute immeasurably to  
4 the health and well-being of Americans; and

5           WHEREAS, Dating back to 1921, this observance grew out of a  
6 citywide celebration suggested by a Chicago newspaper editor who  
7 hoped to alleviate public fears about hospitals in the wake of a  
8 deadly flu epidemic; the event succeeded in engendering trust and  
9 good will, and it expanded to an entire week in 1953; today, it is  
10 sponsored by the American Hospital Association as one of the  
11 country's largest health care observances; and

12           WHEREAS, Texas provides vital health services to its nearly  
13 27 million residents through 611 hospitals, which together house  
14 more than 86,000 licensed beds; these diverse institutions range  
15 from general acute-care and pediatric hospitals to psychiatric,  
16 rehabilitation, cancer, and other specialty facilities; about 27  
17 percent are located in rural areas of the state, while more than 73  
18 percent are in urban areas; and

19           WHEREAS, Over 280 of the state's hospitals are designated  
20 trauma facilities and staffed by specially trained physicians and  
21 nurses, as well as supported by EMS personnel who provide urgent  
22 prehospital care through ground and air transportation; and

23           WHEREAS, During 2014, Texas hospitals provided care for an  
24 estimated 2.5 million inpatients, 40 million outpatients, and 10.4

1 million emergency patients; in addition, these institutions are  
2 required by state and federal law to assess and stabilize all who  
3 come to the emergency room, without regard to their ability to pay;  
4 and

5 WHEREAS, An invaluable source of private sector jobs in the  
6 state, hospitals employ more than 400,000 Texans, among them  
7 doctors, nurses, technicians, therapists, engineers,  
8 administrators, food service workers, and many more; and

9 WHEREAS, Hospitals play a critical role in society, offering  
10 treatment and comfort to the sick, conducting groundbreaking  
11 research, and ushering new lives into the world; moreover,  
12 hospitals are increasingly active in expanding health care access  
13 and developing preventive health initiatives that foster wellness  
14 throughout communities; and

15 WHEREAS, National Hospital Week celebrates both hospitals  
16 and the professionals who work tirelessly every day to improve the  
17 health of their fellow citizens through compassionate care,  
18 advanced diagnostic and treatment tools, and unyielding dedication  
19 to the well-being of their communities; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas  
21 Legislature hereby commemorate National Hospital Week 2016 and  
22 express sincere appreciation to all those whose endeavors support  
23 the continued excellence of the hospital system across the Lone  
24 Star State.