

By: Phelan

H.R. No. 652

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Civic-minded residents of Beaumont, Orange, Port  
2 Arthur, and other communities in Jefferson and Orange Counties are  
3 visiting Austin March 5-7, 2017, to celebrate Golden Triangle Days  
4 at the State Capitol; and

5 WHEREAS, A strategically important source of energy and  
6 chemical manufactured products, the Golden Triangle refines about  
7 13 percent of the nation's gasoline daily, including 60 percent of  
8 its commercial jet fuel and the majority of its military jet fuel;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, The region is served by the Sabine Neches Waterway,  
11 which ranks fourth in the United States for total tonnage and  
12 supports a large percentage of the nation's petrochemical industry;  
13 it is the country's top commercial military out-load port and the  
14 first in crude oil imports, and on June 10, 2014, the federal  
15 government authorized an improvement project that will deepen the  
16 channel to 48 feet, enhancing the global competitiveness of this  
17 key gateway; and

18 WHEREAS, The Golden Triangle is also linked to an extensive  
19 rail and pipeline system; construction has been completed on a  
20 pipeline from Oklahoma to Jefferson County, and with over \$3  
21 billion in announced new economic development projects and another  
22 \$20 billion under consideration, the region has become an  
23 increasingly vital contributor to the economic prosperity of the  
24 state; and

1           WHEREAS, The area's population has access to such notable  
2 institutions of higher education as Lamar University, Lamar State  
3 College-Orange, Lamar State College-Port Arthur, and the Lamar  
4 Institute of Technology; moreover, a number of training programs  
5 are available to ensure the preparedness of the workforce;  
6 residents further benefit from unique cultural and environmental  
7 sites, among them Shangri La Botanical Gardens and Nature Center,  
8 Big Thicket National Preserve, and coastal habitats such as Sea Rim  
9 State Park and the McFadden National Wildlife Refuge, which also  
10 draw many tourists; and

11           WHEREAS, Public-spirited residents of Jefferson and Orange  
12 Counties are working together to build a vibrant, prosperous future  
13 for their region, and it is indeed fitting to honor their dedication  
14 and commitment to the betterment of their communities and of the  
15 Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

16           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
17 Legislature hereby recognize March 5-7, 2017, as Golden Triangle  
18 Days at the State Capitol and extend to all those participating  
19 sincere best wishes for a meaningful and memorable stay in Austin.