

By: Hernandez

H.R. No. 721

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A delegation from the Houston East End Chamber of
2 Commerce is visiting the Capitol City on March 6 and 7, 2017, and
3 this occasion provides a fitting opportunity to recognize the
4 organization for its many accomplishments; and

5 WHEREAS, Predating the founding of the city of Houston, the
6 East End can trace its origins to the 1820s, when New York
7 entrepreneur John Harris established Harrisburg at the
8 intersection of Braes and Buffalo Bayous; after briefly serving as
9 the capital of the Republic of Texas, the town was annexed by
10 Houston in 1926; today, the East End remains a location of great
11 importance as the proud home of the Port of Houston, one of the
12 nation's foremost ports for international trade and one of the
13 largest port facilities in the world; and

14 WHEREAS, The Houston East End Chamber of Commerce was founded
15 in 1991 to ensure the economic prosperity of the area; guided by
16 this central goal, the chamber hosts a wide range of programs and
17 events that encourage new commercial ventures and support existing
18 businesses, including luncheons, seminars, committee meetings,
19 golf tournaments, and an annual awards celebration; and

20 WHEREAS, In 2006, the chamber created the Strategic Vision
21 for the East End, which identified six key priorities: economic
22 development, educational resources, history, image,
23 infrastructure, and parks and neighborhoods; the chamber and its
24 partners have since made outstanding progress, establishing an

1 Economic Development Division in 2009 and the East End Street Fest
2 in 2013; and

3 WHEREAS, Dedicated to equipping the next generation with the
4 knowledge and skills necessary to succeed, the chamber has awarded
5 \$250,000 in scholarships over the past decade; moreover, the
6 organization started a half-day Education Symposium and helped
7 organize Port of Houston Maritime Academies at Stephen F. Austin
8 and Jack Yates High Schools as well as a National Engineering
9 Academy at Chavez High School; and

10 WHEREAS, Since its inception, the East End Chamber of
11 Commerce has worked to enhance the business environment of Houston
12 by providing excellent opportunities for networking, promotion,
13 and education, and in so doing, the group has significantly
14 contributed to the economic vitality of Southeast Texas; now,
15 therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
17 Legislature hereby honor the Houston East End Chamber of Commerce
18 for its exemplary efforts in behalf of the East End community and
19 the surrounding area and extend to its membership sincere best
20 wishes for the future; and, be it further

21 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
22 prepared for the chamber as an expression of high regard by the
23 Texas House of Representatives.