

By: Hunter

H.R. No. 1224

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud residents of Port Aransas are gathering in
2 Austin on April 4, 2017, to celebrate Port Aransas Day at the State
3 Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, In the early 1800s, Mustang Island was frequented by
5 the famed buccaneer Jean Lafitte, and in 1855, an English sheep and
6 cattle rancher named Robert A. Mercer built a cabin on the island; a
7 community developed around the site, and the first post office was
8 established in 1888 and called Ropesville; eight years later it was
9 renamed Tarpon to highlight the island's fine fishing, and in 1911,
10 the town was officially designated as Port Aransas; and

11 WHEREAS, Since World War II, the city has become one of the
12 most popular resort destinations on the Texas Gulf Coast, and the
13 superb beaches draw campers, swimmers, and surfers from across the
14 Lone Star State; the town's launching ramps, lighted piers, and
15 jetties enable anglers to catch a wide variety of fish, including
16 red snapper, shark, sand trout, tuna, and bonito, and the region's
17 diverse range of sea life can also be appreciated at The University
18 of Texas Marine Science Institute; and

19 WHEREAS, Port Aransas is one of the top bird-watching
20 locations in the country, and many areas afford fine opportunities
21 to view local species such as herons and roseate spoonbills as well
22 as the annual migrations of hummingbirds, flycatchers, and orioles;
23 additionally, visitors may delight in the town's art galleries,
24 shops, restaurants, and locations of historical interest; and

1 WHEREAS, Blessed with natural beauty and a colorful history,
2 Port Aransas is one of the Lone Star State's great treasures, and
3 its citizens may indeed take pride in their rich heritage and
4 ongoing achievements; now, therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
6 Legislature hereby recognize April 4, 2017, as Port Aransas Day at
7 the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation sincere
8 best wishes for a meaningful and memorable stay in Austin.