

By: Cain

H.R. No. 2050

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Tow trucks and their drivers have become an  
2 indispensable part of our automotive culture, providing welcome  
3 assistance to stranded motorists and helping to clear traffic  
4 crashes throughout the nation; and

5           WHEREAS, More than 35,000 towing companies operate in the  
6 United States, and these businesses employ hundreds of thousands of  
7 people, including dispatchers and safety advisors in addition to  
8 tow truck operators; these dedicated individuals respond to nearly  
9 15 million traffic accidents each year, coming to the aid of  
10 motorists and first responders in all types of weather, at all hours  
11 of the day and night; and

12           WHEREAS, Part of our nation's transportation system for the  
13 past century, the towing industry traces its roots to 1916, when  
14 Ernest Holmes of Chattanooga, Tennessee, was inspired to design the  
15 first tow vehicle after assisting in the recovery of a crashed Model  
16 T; Mr. Holmes and the company he founded went on to pioneer numerous  
17 innovations in towing and produced such classic wreckers as the  
18 W-45 model used by the U.S. military in World War II; and

19           WHEREAS, Since the earliest days of the industry, tow truck  
20 drivers have faced considerable dangers while performing their  
21 jobs; working in the midst of busy traffic and often in poor weather  
22 conditions, operators regularly put their lives on the line, and an  
23 average of one tow truck worker is killed every six days in the  
24 United States; and

1           WHEREAS, To lessen the hazards faced by these skilled  
2 professionals, it is important for motorists to observe proper  
3 safety precautions when they encounter tow trucks on the roadways,  
4 including reducing their speed and moving over to provide  
5 additional clearance between the line of traffic and the tow truck  
6 and stranded vehicle; and

7           WHEREAS, The towing industry provides essential services to  
8 the public, keeping our roadways clear and open for travel, and its  
9 workers are truly deserving of special recognition; now, therefore,  
10 be it

11           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
12 Legislature hereby recognize the third week of September 2017 as  
13 Towing Industry Awareness Week and extend to all those in the  
14 industry sincere best wishes for the future.