

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The High Ground of Texas is celebrating its 30th  
2 anniversary in 2018, and this milestone year provides a fitting  
3 opportunity to recognize the organization for its contributions to  
4 the community; and

5           WHEREAS, Established in 1988, the High Ground is a marketing  
6 coalition that helps to promote job creation and economic growth in  
7 the Panhandle, South Plains, Permian Basin, and Concho Valley  
8 regions of Texas; the group works to introduce West Texas to new  
9 industries while presenting a unified voice on issues that affect  
10 the area; and

11           WHEREAS, Operating at the state, national, and international  
12 levels, the High Ground has touted the region's outstanding quality  
13 of life, low cost of living, skilled workforce, strategic location,  
14 excellent business climate, and economic diversity at myriad trade  
15 shows and expositions; the organization has taken its message to  
16 countries around the world, including Germany, Denmark, the United  
17 Kingdom, France, Mexico, Canada, Argentina, and Brazil; and

18           WHEREAS, At its start, the High Ground had 29 members and  
19 represented 41 counties, but in the years since its founding, it has  
20 grown to include more than 75 members across 67 counties with a  
21 combined population of 1.5 million people; the group's membership  
22 is composed of such regional stakeholders as cities, counties,  
23 utilities, cooperatives, chambers of commerce, and economic  
24 development corporations; and

1           WHEREAS, In recent years, the High Ground was adeptly guided  
2 by Lorie Vincent, who served as executive director from 1998 to  
3 2014; today the organization is ably led by executive director  
4 Kevin Carter; and

5           WHEREAS, For the past three decades, the High Ground has  
6 furthered the common interests of its member communities and  
7 organizations by skillfully displaying the region's boundless  
8 spirit of hard work, pioneer grit, and neighborliness to the world;  
9 now, therefore, be it

10          RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
11 Legislature hereby congratulate the High Ground of Texas on its  
12 30th anniversary in 2018 and extend to the organization's members  
13 and staff sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

14          RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
15 prepared for the group as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
16 House of Representatives.

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H.R. No. 2612

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 2612 was adopted by the House on May 29, 2017, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House