

1 as a result of lagging appropriations, the Harbor Maintenance Trust
2 Fund had a balance of more than \$9 billion at the start of 2016; in
3 Texas alone, less than 25 percent of the HMT revenue collected in
4 the state has been appropriated for harbor maintenance; and

5 WHEREAS, Our nation's ports are vital to our economic
6 prosperity and global competitiveness, and these funds, which were
7 collected for the express purpose of the maintenance and
8 improvement of the ports, should be put to work; now, therefore, be
9 it

10 RESOLVED, That the 85th Legislature of the State of Texas
11 hereby respectfully urge the United States Congress to increase
12 appropriations from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund to ensure
13 that the nation's ship channels are appropriately maintained and
14 safe; and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official
16 copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to
17 the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of
18 Representatives of the United States Congress, and to all the
19 members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that
20 this resolution be entered in the Congressional Record as a
21 memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.