86R8965 BK-D

By:  Oliverson H.C.R. No. 75

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Investing in emergency preparedness is critical to lessening the economic and human impact of disasters, and the first week of September is being set aside as Resiliency Week to highlight the importance of advance planning in coping with such events; and

WHEREAS, Since 1908, natural disasters in the United States have inflicted a total of more than $1 trillion in damage; they have affected local and state economies in lost payrolls, lost sales and income tax, and delayed economic recovery; of all the small businesses impacted by natural disasters, it is estimated that 25 percent never reopened their doors; and

WHEREAS, Hazard mitigation is the effort to reduce the loss of life and property from disasters, and it is most effective when implemented under a comprehensive, long-term mitigation plan; and

WHEREAS, The Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency is designed to assist states and local communities in developing such plans; the Disaster Recovery Reform Act, a piece of federal legislation recently signed into law, makes available new funding for states and communities to undertake pre-disaster mitigation measures and creates new incentives for states to prioritize resiliency; and

WHEREAS, According to a FEMA-commissioned study conducted by the National Institute of Building Sciences, every dollar spent on hazard mitigation provides the nation with $6 in future benefits; effective pre-disaster mitigation reduces the demand for relief services provided by rescue and recovery teams, food banks and homeless shelters, and other organizations, and it helps break the cycle of vulnerability that can leave communities prone to future hazards; and

WHEREAS, The task of building strong, secure, and resilient communities is essential to the long-term prosperity of the Lone Star State, and Resiliency Week in September serves to remind us of the need to take action now to ensure that the infrastructure of our state is ready for whatever tomorrow may bring; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 86th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby designate the first week of September as Resiliency Week; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 391.004(d), Government Code, this designation remain in effect until the 10th anniversary of the date that this resolution is finally passed by the legislature.