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By:  Deshotel H.R. No. 29

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Proud residents of Beaumont, Orange, Port Arthur, and surrounding communities are gathering in Austin on February 11-12, 2019, to celebrate Golden Triangle Days at the State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, Situated on the Gulf Coast and western Louisiana border, amid low marshland, this region within Jefferson and Orange Counties is well known for its rich natural resources; in its early years, the area grew as an active riverport that served as a center for cattle raisers, farmers, lumber workers, and rice millers; and

WHEREAS, In 1901, the Spindletop oil gusher was discovered by Captain Anthony F. Lucas in Beaumont, and the region transformed virtually overnight; the discovery of oil and gas led to a boom in industry and wealth, and the area of land between the cities of Beaumont, Orange, and Port Arthur was deemed the Golden Triangle; and

WHEREAS, Along with its abundant resources, this dynamic region is also known for its strong industrial infrastructure, which includes the impressive ports of Beaumont and Port Arthur, high-capacity railways, and land-based highways; as a result, the Golden Triangle has become one of the largest refining and petrochemical hubs in the world, and it is associated with world-renowned corporations such as Chevron, ExxonMobil, and Texaco; and

WHEREAS, In recent years, there has been tremendous international investment in the region from companies based in France, Canada, Austria, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the United Kingdom, and the Netherlands; with an estimated $54 billion in new investment, and a workforce that is committed to increasing production capacity, the Beaumont/Orange/Port Arthur area is experiencing its lowest unemployment rate in a decade; and

WHEREAS, The approximately 400,000 residents of the Golden Triangle have access to distinguished educational institutions, including Lamar University, Lamar State College-Orange, Lamar State College-Port Arthur, and the Lamar Institute of Technology; the public also benefits from the extraordinary landscape of Southeast Texas, which lends itself to various environmental tourism sites, such as Shangri La Botanical Gardens and Nature Center, the Big Thicket National Preserve, Sea Rim State Park, and the McFaddin National Wildlife Refuge; moreover, there are numerous historical and cultural attractions, including Beaumont's Crockett Street Entertainment District, Spindletop-Gladys City Boomtown Museum, McFaddin-Ward House, Sabine Pass Battleground State Historic Site, and Museum of the Gulf Coast; and

WHEREAS, The public-spirited residents of Jefferson and Orange Counties are working together to recover from Hurricane Harvey and to take advantage of historic development opportunities, and it is indeed fitting to honor their dedication and commitment as they build a vibrant and prosperous future for their communities and the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby recognize February 11-12, 2019, as Golden Triangle Days at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation sincere best wishes for a meaningful and memorable stay in Austin.