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By:  Parker H.R. No. 1266

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, An official delegation from the United Kingdom headed by British Consul General Karen Bell is visiting the State Capitol on April 25, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Winston Churchill observed in 1946 that the United States and the United Kingdom enjoy a "special relationship" based on bonds of shared history, culture, and language, and it is also true that Texans have a long history of friendship with Britain; President Sam Houston was the first Texas leader to send ambassadors to London, and a plaque on St. James Street still marks the site of the legation of the Republic of Texas; and

WHEREAS, Today, more than 800 subsidiaries of British companies do business in the Lone Star State, directly supporting 53,000 jobs for Texans, and the UK is the state's sixth-largest global export market; each year, nearly $5 billion in services and $4 billion in such goods as petroleum, aerospace products, and medical equipment are purchased from Texas by British households and businesses; prominent airlines, such as British Airways and United, offer daily flights to the UK from major Texas cities, and high levels of tourism and business travel bring our two peoples even closer, both economically and culturally; and

WHEREAS, Represented by the British Consulate General in Houston, the government of the UK works with Texas state and municipal leaders, nongovernmental organizations, and businesses to create a more prosperous and secure future, and together Texans and Britons share a commitment to fighting terrorism, ending the scourge of human trafficking, and maintaining the sustainable stewardship of natural resources and the environment; and

WHEREAS, The State of Texas takes great pride in its partnership with the UK, and the citizens of the Lone Star State look forward to many more years of fruitful cooperation with their friends from across the Atlantic; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby recognize April 25, 2019, as United Kingdom Day at the State Capitol and extend to Consul General Bell and the rest of the visiting delegation sincere best wishes for an enjoyable and productive visit; and, be it further

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