

By: Guillen

H.C.R. No. 61

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, One-third of all wildlife and plant species in the
2 United States are experiencing population decline, and of these
3 more than 12,000 species in need of conservation, 1,310 are found in
4 Texas; and

5 WHEREAS, The federal government lacks a dedicated funding
6 system to conserve at-risk wildlife, but the Recovering America's
7 Wildlife Act would provide permanent federal revenue for each state
8 to enact its own plan for stabilizing and recovering its species in
9 decline; an annual block of \$1.3 billion, financed by existing
10 royalties from energy and mineral production on federal lands and
11 waters and at no cost to taxpayers, would be dedicated to
12 state-based conservation; and

13 WHEREAS, With its passage, the Lone Star State would be
14 eligible for \$63 million annually to implement its Texas
15 Conservation Action Plan, a preestablished strategy for conserving
16 and improving the status of flora and fauna designated as Species of
17 Greatest Conservation Need; administered by the Texas Parks and
18 Wildlife Department, the funding would reduce the need for
19 regulatory intervention by empowering wildlife managers and
20 private landowners to address conservation issues at the local
21 level; and

22 WHEREAS, Texas would not only benefit ecologically, but also
23 economically through job creation, improved regulatory certainty,
24 increased nature tourism, and improved food production; and

1 WHEREAS, Conservation of at-risk wildlife is vital to our
2 future, and the passage of the Recovering America's Wildlife Act
3 would represent a transformative step in preserving the character
4 and beauty of our natural environment; now, therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the 86th Legislature of the State of Texas
6 hereby respectfully urge the Congress of the United States to pass
7 the Recovering America's Wildlife Act; and, be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official
9 copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to
10 the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of
11 Representatives of the United States Congress, and to all the
12 members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that
13 this resolution be entered in the Congressional Record as a
14 memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.