

By: Hunter

H.C.R. No. 82

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The cruise operations in the home port of Galveston
2 have an enormous economic impact on Texas; the city hosted more than
3 900,000 passenger and crew visits in 2017, which accounted for
4 \$1.42 billion in direct spending; in addition, the industry was
5 responsible for generating over 25,000 Texas jobs and paying \$1.62
6 billion in wage income; and

7 WHEREAS, South of Galveston, between Calhoun and Cameron
8 Counties, from the tip of the Golden Crescent, along the Coastal
9 Bend, to the Lower Rio Grande Valley, Texas is home to several
10 growing cities, robust tourism, and a wealth of natural resources;
11 the area, with more than 150 miles of Gulf shoreline, also harbors
12 three major deepwater ports, any of which might be a viable site for
13 a cruise line headquarters or a port of embarkation; and

14 WHEREAS, Florida and California, respectively, benefit the
15 most from the North American cruise industry, and each state
16 operates multiple cruise ports; and

17 WHEREAS, An additional Texas cruise ship port between Calhoun
18 and Cameron Counties could offer an attractive vacation option for
19 a significant portion of the state's residents and be an economic
20 boon to the state as a whole; now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the 86th Legislature of the State of Texas
22 hereby request the lieutenant governor and the speaker of the house
23 of representatives to create a joint interim committee to conduct a
24 study regarding the development of a cruise industry on the Texas

1 coast between Calhoun and Cameron Counties, including its potential
2 economic impact and options for incentives to attract the cruise
3 industry to South Texas; and, be it further

4 RESOLVED, That the committee's proceedings and operations be
5 governed by such general rules and policies for joint interim
6 committees as the 86th Texas Legislature may adopt; and, be it
7 further

8 RESOLVED, That the committee submit a full report, including
9 findings and recommendations, to the 87th Texas Legislature before
10 it convenes in January 2021.