

By: Herrero

H.C.R. No. 140

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The Gulf of Mexico is an ocean basin bounded on the
2 north, northeast, and northwest by the United States, on the south
3 and southwest by Mexico, and on the southeast by Cuba; and

4 WHEREAS, Forming a vibrant region, the five Gulf states,
5 Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas, contribute
6 immeasurably to the nation's economy, security, energy,
7 environment, culture, beauty, diversity, and resilience; and

8 WHEREAS, The Gulf of Mexico's watershed covers more than half
9 of the continental United States; all the rivers in Texas drain into
10 the gulf, which sustains diverse flora and fauna, providing food,
11 shelter, and habitat to marine and estuarine organisms, shorebirds,
12 waterfowl, and other wildlife; and

13 WHEREAS, While supporting the nation's seafood industry, the
14 gulf also draws people from across the country and around the world
15 for recreational fishing and all manner of water sports; tourism
16 generates hundreds of billions of dollars each year; and

17 WHEREAS, The Gulf region plays a vital role in our nation's
18 defense and aerospace exploration; moreover, it is crucial to oil,
19 gas, and energy production, as well as import and export trade; if
20 it were a country, the region's economy would rank among the globe's
21 top 10; and

22 WHEREAS, With its combination of commercial activity and
23 natural beauty, the gulf draws a large population to its thousands
24 of miles of shoreline; one of the most culturally diverse regions in

1 the nation, it is home to millions of residents who trace their
2 heritage to different continents and embrace the variety of
3 traditions that converge in this unique place; and

4 WHEREAS, The continued dynamism of the Gulf of Mexico is a
5 matter of tremendous import to the entire nation, and by increasing
6 awareness of the region's myriad treasures and limitless value, we
7 help to ensure a sustainable future; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the 86th Legislature of the State of Texas
9 hereby recognize 2020 as "The Year to Embrace the Gulf" and
10 encourage all Texans to join in the observance; and, be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official
12 copies of this resolution to the Capitol press corps.