

By: Bonnen of Galveston

H.C.R. No. 178

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Hurricane Harvey struck the Texas coast on August
2 25, 2017, causing an estimated \$125 billion in damage; and

3 WHEREAS, The second-most destructive storm in American
4 history, Hurricane Harvey impacted approximately 30 percent of the
5 population of Texas, destroying homes, damaging infrastructure,
6 and displacing thousands of families along the coast; and

7 WHEREAS, The Federal Emergency Management Agency received
8 nearly 900,000 applications from affected Texans for some form of
9 assistance; as many as 83 percent of people whose homes flooded did
10 not maintain flood insurance, creating unprecedented demand for
11 state and federal disaster recovery assistance; and

12 WHEREAS, The Department of Housing and Urban Development's
13 Federal Register notices for Hurricane Harvey require that 70
14 percent of Community Development Block Grant for Disaster Recovery
15 funds be used for activities that benefit low- to moderate-income
16 persons in aggregate; and

17 WHEREAS, City and county officials have criticized this
18 requirement because the way that it is applied focuses on counties
19 with large concentrations of low-income families; in practice, it
20 excludes aid to lower-income people who live in less-populated
21 counties that are home to some higher-income families, causing such
22 counties to receive limited or no funds because they did not meet
23 threshold requirements for income levels; now, therefore, be it

24 RESOLVED, That the 86th Legislature of the State of Texas

1 hereby respectfully urge the United States Congress to enact
2 legislation directing the Department of Housing and Urban
3 Development to rewrite the formula for the allocation of Community
4 Development Block Grant for Disaster Recovery funds to low- and
5 moderate-income people so that all people in these categories are
6 assisted; and, be it further

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