

By: King of Uvalde

H.R. No. 1117

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The dangers of drunk driving and underage drinking
2 are issues of concern to every Texan; and

3 WHEREAS, While concerted law enforcement and education
4 efforts have done much to curb drunk driving over the past few
5 decades, more than 10,000 alcohol-related deaths still occur on our
6 nation's roadways each year; and

7 WHEREAS, A total of 1,468 Texans died in drunk driving
8 crashes in 2017; although this number is above the national
9 average, alcohol-impaired driving fatalities overall have been on
10 the decline at both the state and national levels, and our state has
11 seen a 7.5 percent decrease in such fatalities among drivers under
12 the age of 21 in the last decade alone; and

13 WHEREAS, The State of Texas has worked to reduce the
14 incidence of impaired driving through the use of DWI courts, law
15 enforcement training, No Refusal campaigns, ignition interlock
16 devices, alcoholism treatment, and other lifesaving
17 countermeasures; and

18 WHEREAS, Underage drinking, which continues to be a
19 persistent problem despite a decline to record-low levels in 2018,
20 is an area of particular focus for our state; the number of Texans
21 between the ages of 12 and 20 reporting alcohol consumption in the
22 past month is now around 17 percent, a decrease of 36 percent since
23 2008, and the continued cooperation of state law enforcement
24 agencies, alcohol awareness organizations, and responsible parents

1 can play an instrumental role in ensuring that our youth avoid
2 impaired driving; and

3 WHEREAS, Research shows that parents can help prevent
4 underage drinking and alcohol abuse by beginning conversations with
5 their children about alcohol use at an early age and by continuing
6 to speak with them about the issue throughout childhood,
7 adolescence, and early adulthood; with the help of
8 Responsibility.org and other organizations, 73 percent of
9 teenagers now identify parents as the leading influence in their
10 decisions regarding alcohol, representing a 33 percent increase
11 since 1991; and

12 WHEREAS, The recognition of April as Alcohol Responsibility
13 Month offers a welcome opportunity to call attention to the work
14 that must be done to further reduce the tragic impact of drunk
15 driving and underage drinking in Texas; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
17 Legislature hereby recognize April 2019 as Alcohol Responsibility
18 Month and encourage all Texans to make responsible decisions
19 regarding the consumption of alcohol and to support efforts to
20 reduce drunk driving and underage drinking.