

By: Parker

H.C.R. No. 84

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Recent changes in the global economy have introduced
2 new opportunities for a closer and more mutually beneficial trade
3 relationship between Texas and the United Kingdom; and

4 WHEREAS, Texans have a long history of friendship with the
5 United Kingdom; Sam Houston, president of the Republic of Texas,
6 was the first state leader to send a diplomatic mission to London,
7 and a plaque on St. James Street still marks the site of the
8 legation of the Republic of Texas; the first British Consulate in
9 the State of Texas was established in Galveston in 1846; and

10 WHEREAS, Today, the United Kingdom is the top source of
11 foreign direct investment in Texas, and subsidiaries of British
12 companies provide over 119,000 jobs for Texans; the UK is also one
13 of the state's largest global export markets, with British
14 households and businesses purchasing more than \$10.2 billion in
15 services and goods such as petroleum, aerospace products, and
16 medical equipment from Texas each year; moreover, high levels of
17 tourism and business travel bring our two peoples even closer, both
18 economically and culturally, while cooperation on major defense
19 projects such as the F-35 fighter jet project based in Fort Worth
20 emphasizes our shared security interests; and

21 WHEREAS, Represented by the British Consulate General in
22 Houston, the government of the United Kingdom works with Texas
23 state and municipal leaders, nongovernmental organizations, and
24 businesses to create a more prosperous future, and together Texans

1 and Britons share a commitment to defeat the COVID-19 pandemic and
2 recover from its economic effects, to create robust and resilient
3 supply chains, and to build a more secure energy infrastructure;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, The relationship between Texas and the UK can be
6 strengthened by continued dialogue on issues of trade and commerce
7 that fall within state jurisdiction, as well as the eventual
8 passage of a comprehensive free trade agreement between the United
9 States and the United Kingdom; and

10 WHEREAS, The State of Texas takes great pride in its
11 partnership with the United Kingdom, and the citizens of the Lone
12 Star State look forward to many more years of fruitful cooperation
13 with their friends across the Atlantic; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the 87th Legislature of the State of Texas
15 hereby recognize the vital importance of the enduring friendship
16 between Texas and the United Kingdom and commend all those
17 individuals who are working to maintain and strengthen that
18 relationship and the bonds of shared history, language, and
19 culture, including British Ambassador to the United States Karen
20 Pierce and British Consul General in Houston Richard Hyde; and, be
21 it further

22 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
23 prepared for the Consul General of the United Kingdom in Houston and
24 the British Ambassador to the United States in Washington, D.C. as
25 an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives
26 and Senate.