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By:  Bhojani H.R. No. 2304

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Vesak Day, one of the most important and sacred holidays to Buddhists worldwide, commemorates the life, enlightenment, and death of the Buddha; and

WHEREAS, Born between 400 and 560 B.C., the Buddha, or Siddhartha Gautama, was the son of an Indian king; after leaving behind his home and his royal title to become an ascetic, he resolved to find an end to human suffering, which led to him identifying the Four Noble Truths and the Noble Eightfold Path toward enlightenment; and

WHEREAS, Some 2,500 years later, followers of Buddhism honor the legacy of the religion's founder on Vesak Day; depending on the country where it is celebrated, the holiday occurs on the first full moon of May, or on the full moon of the fourth lunar month; many observe the holiday by reaffirming their commitment to the moral precepts of Buddhism, performing good deeds, and devoting time to chanting and meditation; other customs include lighting lanterns, decorating with flowers, and enjoying traditional Asian dishes; and

WHEREAS, The teachings of Buddha have inspired millions of people around the globe to strive for inner peace and to demonstrate greater compassion, tolerance, and understanding in their lives, and it is fitting to acknowledge the great importance of Vesak Day to Buddhists who reside in the Lone Star State and beyond; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas Legislature hereby recognize the significance of Vesak Day to people of the Buddhist faith and extend sincere best wishes to our state's Buddhist community for a festive and meaningful observance of Vesak Day.