R E S O L U T I O N

1   WHEREAS, The festival of Diwali, a holiday celebrated by
2   followers of Hinduism, Jainism, and Sikhism, is taking place from
3   October 31 to November 4, 2024; and

4   WHEREAS, For people of these faiths, Diwali represents the
5   symbolic victory of light over darkness; while celebrants observe
6   different national, regional, and religious customs, the
7   five-day-long event is generally regarded as a time of happiness
8   and benevolence, when people come together and express gratitude
9   for their blessings; and

10   WHEREAS, Among Hindus, a common Diwali custom is to light
11   diyas, or small lamps filled with oils; the custom is performed to
12   invite Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth, into one's home, and
13   throughout the festival, diyas are also lit and placed around
14   temples and floated down rivers and streams; in the Jain community,
15   Diwali represents the enlightenment and liberation of the spiritual
16   teacher Mahavira from the cycle of life and death, with the
17   illumination of lamps around homes symbolizing the light of
18   Mahavira's holy knowledge; for the Sikhs, Diwali commemorates an
19   important event in the Sikh tradition, the release of a prominent
20   holy figure, Guru Hargobind, from imprisonment; and

21   WHEREAS, Celebrated by more than a billion people across the
22   globe, Diwali is a holiday that is richly varied in its customs,
23   rituals, and significance, and it is fitting to acknowledge the
24   great importance that Diwali has to those of the Hindu, Jain, and

1 Sikh faiths who reside in the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

2   RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas

3 Legislature hereby recognize the festival of Diwali 2024 and extend

4 to all those participating in the observance sincere best wishes

5 for a meaningful and memorable occasion.

Jetton

H.R. No. 221

_____

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 221 was adopted by the House on March 8, 2023, by the following vote: Yeas 140, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting.

_____

Chief Clerk of the House