

1-1 By: Parker S.C.R. No. 8  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed January 13, 2023; February 15, 2023,  
 1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Administration;  
 1-4 March 30, 2023, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 6,  
 1-5 Nays 0; March 30, 2023, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9			X	
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			

1-15 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-16 WHEREAS, The Lone Star State has benefited enormously from  
 1-17 the contributions of its Italian American residents; and

1-18 WHEREAS, During the 17th, 18th, and early 19th centuries, the  
 1-19 few Italians who came to Texas were mainly explorers, adventurers,  
 1-20 or missionaries; Italians began to play a larger role toward the end  
 1-21 of the 19th century, when Piedmontese made their homes in Montague  
 1-22 County and Sicilians settled in the lower Brazos valley and on the  
 1-23 Galveston County mainland; Modenese, Venetians, and Piedmontese  
 1-24 worked the coal mines at Thurber, and Italian financier Joseph  
 1-25 Telfener brought some 1,200 Lombards to help construct the New  
 1-26 York, Texas and Mexican Railway between Victoria and Rosenberg; and

1-27 WHEREAS, Most of the railway builders and coal miners moved  
 1-28 back to Italy or on to other places when their work was completed;  
 1-29 however, the Italian American community in the Brazos valley fanned  
 1-30 out into surrounding areas, and settlements in Houston, Galveston,  
 1-31 and San Antonio expanded rapidly; new residents founded churches,  
 1-32 newspapers, and benevolent-fraternal organizations, as well as  
 1-33 businesses; prominent Italian Americans of the 20th century include  
 1-34 bootmaker Sam Lucchese, sculptor Pompeo Coppini, rancher Antonio  
 1-35 Mateo Bruni, and agriculturalist-developer Biagio Varisco; the  
 1-36 towns of Bruni and Varisco and such names as Bruni Park, Varisco  
 1-37 Airport, Liggio Street, and Laneri Avenue are a testament to the  
 1-38 achievements of Italian Americans; and

1-39 WHEREAS, Through the years, individuals of Italian descent  
 1-40 have excelled in all sectors of our society and economy, enriching  
 1-41 our cultural tapestry, enhancing our prosperity, and securing the  
 1-42 Lone Star State's reputation as a land of promise and possibility;  
 1-43 most recently, Italian Americans have made prominent contributions  
 1-44 throughout the state in such areas as aerospace, energy,  
 1-45 technology, science, research, and arts and culture, in addition to  
 1-46 construction and economic development projects; June 2 represents  
 1-47 an ideal date on which to honor all of those accomplishments, as  
 1-48 Italians around the world celebrate this day as Festa della  
 1-49 Repubblica to commemorate the 1946 referendum that ended the  
 1-50 monarchy in Italy and established a republic and to commemorate  
 1-51 over 160 years since the unification of Italy; now, therefore, be it

1-52 RESOLVED, That the 88th Legislature of the State of Texas  
 1-53 hereby designate June 2 as Italian Heritage Day; and, be it further

1-54 RESOLVED, That, in accordance with the provisions of Section  
 1-55 391.004(d), Government Code, this designation remain in effect  
 1-56 until the 10th anniversary of the date this resolution is finally  
 1-57 passed by the legislature.

1-58 \* \* \* \* \*