

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The designation of September as Deaf Awareness Month
2 serves as a fitting means to promote better understanding and to
3 encourage greater support of individuals who are deaf or hard of
4 hearing; and

5 WHEREAS, The International Day of the Deaf was first
6 celebrated in 1958, and it later expanded to become a weeklong
7 commemoration of the first World Congress of the World Federation
8 of the Deaf, which took place in Rome in September 1951; Deaf
9 Awareness Month was established in 1996 through the efforts of the
10 National Association of the Deaf; in the years since, deaf and hard
11 of hearing communities across the United States have marked the
12 occasion by celebrating the essential role that its members play in
13 society and by focusing attention on their experiences and
14 achievements; and

15 WHEREAS, Texas is home to millions of individuals from
16 diverse backgrounds who are deaf or hard of hearing, and the members
17 of this unique cultural group share a rich and colorful history as
18 well as deep social connections; they often communicate through
19 visual methods, such as American Sign Language, written
20 communication, and lipreading, and they may use technologies such
21 as hearing aids, cochlear implants, video relay services, and
22 closed captions; and

23 WHEREAS, Government agencies such as the Texas Health and
24 Human Services Commission offer a variety of programs to support

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1 citizens of all ages who are deaf or hard of hearing, including
2 communication services for events, educational initiatives,
3 interpreter training and certification, telecommunications
4 assistance, and tuition waivers; moreover, advocates for the deaf
5 and hard of hearing community are working to expand access to vital
6 resources and assistance and are dedicated to reducing stigma
7 related to deafness and hearing loss; and

8 WHEREAS, Deaf Awareness Month provides a welcome opportunity
9 to educate the public about issues that impact Texans who are deaf
10 or hard of hearing and to celebrate the many contributions they have
11 made to the vibrancy and prosperity of the Lone Star State; now,
12 therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the 89th Legislature of the State of Texas
14 hereby designate September as Deaf Awareness Month; and, be it
15 further

16 RESOLVED, That, in accordance with the provisions of
17 Section 391.004(d), Government Code, this designation remain in
18 effect until the 10th anniversary of the date this resolution is
19 finally passed by the legislature.

Leo Wilson
Flores

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 12 was adopted by the House on May 1, 2025, by the following vote: Yeas 138, Nays 2, 3 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 12 was adopted by the Senate on May 9, 2025, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor