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S.R. No. 161

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Port of Galveston is celebrating its 200th  
2 anniversary with a series of events in 2025; and

3 WHEREAS, The port was officially founded on October 17, 1825,  
4 when Stephen F. Austin urged the Mexican government to designate it  
5 as a provisional customs entry point; in 1836, the port played a  
6 vital role in the Texas Revolution and the Battle of San Jacinto,  
7 and after Texas won its independence, it became a catalyst in the  
8 incorporation of the city of Galveston in 1839; the port would serve  
9 as a powerful economic engine for Galveston and the primary factor  
10 in its emergence as one of the largest cities in Texas; in 1940, a  
11 public vote led to the port becoming a self-sustaining city entity;  
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Today, the 840-acre Port of Galveston is the only  
14 cruise port in the state and the fourth most popular cruise port in  
15 the nation; it features three terminals from which ships operated  
16 by Carnival, Disney, Norwegian, Princess, and Royal Caribbean  
17 cruise lines set sail, and this year, nearly two million passengers  
18 boarded cruises in Galveston; the cruise industry accounts for 60  
19 percent of the port's revenue and is helping to fund renovation  
20 efforts, such as the \$90 million expansion project currently  
21 underway at the West Port Cargo Complex; in addition, officials  
22 recently broke ground on a \$156 million project to construct a  
23 fourth cruise terminal, adding to the port's stable of cruise  
24 providers; and

1           WHEREAS, The Port of Galveston has long been a resource of  
2   tremendous economic, commercial, and recreational significance to  
3   the State of Texas, and it is indeed fitting to join the people of  
4   Galveston in celebrating this important milestone in the rich  
5   history of the port; now, therefore, be it

6           RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 89th Texas Legislature  
7   hereby commemorate the 200th anniversary of the Port of Galveston  
8   and pay tribute to the momentous role that the port has played in  
9   the story of Texas.