

1-1 By: Bettencourt S.C.R. No. 32
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 13, 2015; March 23, 2015, read
 1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Natural Resources and
 1-4 Economic Development; April 22, 2015, reported favorably by the
 1-5 following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; April 22, 2015, 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	X			
1-16			X	
1-17	X			
1-18	X			

1-19 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-20 WHEREAS, The United States is the world's largest producer of
 1-21 natural gas, but antiquated trade restrictions limit the potential
 1-22 of this industry as an engine of economic growth; and

1-23 WHEREAS, In the wake of the 2008-2009 recession, the
 1-24 increasing extraction of natural gas from shale formations helped
 1-25 lift the nation's economy; this type of gas development supported
 1-26 more than 900,000 jobs in 2012, according to a study sponsored by
 1-27 the United States Chamber of Commerce Institute for 21st Century
 1-28 Energy; the majority of those jobs had been created even as overall
 1-29 unemployment reached some of the highest levels in a generation;
 1-30 the booming economy of Texas, a leader in shale gas and liquefied
 1-31 natural gas production, is a testament to the importance of this
 1-32 industry; and

1-33 WHEREAS, Natural gas exports also play an important
 1-34 geopolitical role; Russia has been the dominant provider of
 1-35 liquefied natural gas to European countries, and much of the
 1-36 liquefied natural gas that they use flows through pipelines that
 1-37 cross Ukraine; recent turmoil there has threatened energy supplies
 1-38 to Europe, prompting efforts to diversify its sources of liquefied
 1-39 natural gas; and

1-40 WHEREAS, Currently, an American company can export liquefied
 1-41 natural gas only to the limited group of countries with which the
 1-42 United States has existing free trade agreements, unless the firm
 1-43 obtains a license by undergoing an onerous application process
 1-44 through the Department of Energy; the review of liquefied natural
 1-45 gas export applications has been extremely slow, resulting in
 1-46 costly and unnecessary delays in exports to many of our trading
 1-47 partners; moreover, this barrier contradicts the nation's historic
 1-48 trade policy and inhibits compliance with World Trade Organization
 1-49 rules; and

1-50 WHEREAS, The expansion of natural gas exports to all
 1-51 countries within the World Trade Organization would bring the
 1-52 United States in line with its World Trade Organization obligations
 1-53 and build ties with East Asia and other parts of the world;
 1-54 expediting these exports will spur additional investment in new
 1-55 domestic production and increase global supplies of a critical
 1-56 energy source; and

1-57 WHEREAS, At present, the costly and time-consuming
 1-58 regulatory limitations on the export of natural gas hinder trade
 1-59 expansion and job creation and work against the national security
 1-60 interests of the United States; by ending these constraints and
 1-61 increasing global supplies of a critical energy source, the nation

2-1 can strengthen its position on the world stage while allowing the
2-2 energy sector to amplify its vital contributions to economic
2-3 growth; now, therefore, be it

2-4 RESOLVED, That the 84th Legislature of the State of Texas
2-5 hereby respectfully urge the United States Congress to expedite
2-6 natural gas exports; and, be it further

2-7 RESOLVED, That the secretary of state forward official copies
2-8 of this resolution to the president of the United States, to the
2-9 president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of
2-10 Representatives of the United States Congress, and to all the
2-11 members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that
2-12 this resolution be entered in the Congressional Record as a
2-13 memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.

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