

By: Rodriguez

H.C.R. No. 15

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The State of Texas has customarily recognized a
2 variety of official state symbols as tangible representations of
3 the state's history and culture; and

4 WHEREAS, In keeping with this custom, the conferring of
5 official recognition on the Texas Salsa Music Festival shall pay
6 suitable tribute both to a musical genre that is immensely popular
7 within the state and to a festival that is the premier Latin music
8 festival in Texas; and

9 WHEREAS, While closely identified with the state's Latino
10 culture, salsa enjoys popularity among Texans from many
11 backgrounds; indeed, the very qualities that define salsa -- its
12 fusion of different traditions and its exhilarating energy --
13 reflect prominent facets of the heritage and character of the Lone
14 Star State; and

15 WHEREAS, The largest salsa music festival in Central Texas,
16 the Texas Salsa Music Festival is a family-oriented event that
17 draws a diverse crowd of more than 5,500 people; all Latin American
18 countries are represented at the festival, and many people in the
19 audience wear clothing that is representative of their respective
20 countries of origin; and

21 WHEREAS, Some of the internationally renowned performers
22 that have appeared at the festival include ALBITA, Puerto Rican
23 Power, Larry Harlow, Yomo Toro, Junior Gonzales, Jimmy Bosch, and
24 Son de la Loma; and

1 WHEREAS, The 2003 Texas Salsa Music Festival is being held
2 October 12 at Waterloo Park in Austin and is being produced in
3 conjunction with the Latin Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences;
4 in addition to offering attendees some of the most danceable music
5 found anywhere, attractions include international foods, cultural
6 exhibits and displays, activities for children, and free salsa
7 dance lessons; and

8 WHEREAS, Devoted to celebrating the diversity of Latin
9 American cultures, the festival is also designed to raise public
10 awareness of diabetes, a disease for which Hispanics are at
11 especially high risk; and

12 WHEREAS, Since its emergence in the mid-20th century, salsa
13 has captivated legions of listeners and taken many a dance floor
14 across Texas by storm, and the Texas Salsa Music Festival
15 constitutes an outstanding asset to the Lone Star State; now,
16 therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature of the State of Texas,
18 3rd Called Session, hereby designate the Texas Salsa Music Festival
19 as the official salsa music festival of Texas.