

By: Pitts

H.R. No. 354

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The passing of Ronnie Dawson of Dallas, known
2 professionally as the "Blonde Bomber," on September 30, 2003, at
3 the age of 64, has deeply saddened not only his family and many
4 friends but also the multitude of fans of this beloved musician; and

5 WHEREAS, The Waxahachie native's music career began in the
6 1950s, when he was known as "Ronnie D." and became one of Dallas's
7 first teen rock stars, singing "Action Packed" and "I Make the Love"
8 among the popular songs he performed at the Big D Jamboree; this
9 electrifying entertainer became widely known for his showmanship,
10 including jumping from the stage, running through the audience, and
11 playing guitar while standing on a table; and

12 WHEREAS, Shy and soft-spoken off-stage, this multitalented,
13 upbeat individual credited his mother's church choir singing with
14 inspiring him as a performer; and

15 WHEREAS, In the late 1950s, Mr. Dawson turned to rhythm and
16 blues and the stage name Snake Monroe before briefly signing with
17 Columbia Records; he next joined local western swing pioneers the
18 Light Crust Doughboys before playing with the Levee Singers, a folk
19 music act that appeared on *The Danny Kaye Show* and *The Jimmy Dean*
20 *Show*; he organized a country music band named Steel Rail and later
21 sang radio and television jingles; and

22 WHEREAS, Mr. Dawson's outstanding career included
23 involvement in the 1980s rockabilly revival as well as performances
24 during the past decade on *Late Night With Conan O'Brien* and at New

1 York's Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall, after which the *New York*
2 *Times* dubbed him "a guitar-toting answer to Jerry Lee Lewis"; and

3 WHEREAS, Ronnie Dawson was a man of rare talent and
4 creativity, and although he will be deeply missed, his spirit will
5 surely live on in the hearts of the many individuals whose lives he
6 touched; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
8 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of
9 Ronnie Dawson and extend sincere sympathy to his wife, Chris
10 Dawson; to his brother, Louis Dawson; and to all those who mourn the
11 passing of this exceptional singer, musician, and performer; and,
12 be it further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
14 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
15 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Ronnie
16 Dawson.