

By: Hunter

H.C.R. No. 220

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Music is one of the dominating art forms of Texas;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Texas is the dominant force for this art form in the
4 country; and

5 WHEREAS, no other geographic area has ever produced the
6 variety of music and talent that has been produced by Texas artists;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Texas music is acclaimed throughout the industry and
9 around the world for its diversity, independence, and soul; and

10 WHEREAS, The State of Texas currently has not acknowledged a
11 major entity, tourist destination, or Texas Music Hall of Fame
12 Museum to recognize its great music artists and preserve its
13 musical heritage; and

14 WHEREAS, The musical fabric of Texas includes such varied
15 threads as Country, Blues, Jazz, Gospel, Rock, Pop, and
16 TexMex/Tejano which have not only coexisted, but have evolved and
17 cross-pollinated, changing not just Texas, but the entire face of
18 modern popular music; and

19 WHEREAS, Texas produces musical trailblazers and pioneers,
20 ranging from Scott Joplin to Janis Joplin, from Ornette Coleman to
21 Willie Nelson, from Leadbelly to Erykah Badu, from Roger Miller to
22 Steve Miller, from Sippie Wallace to Norah Jones, from Buddy Holly
23 to ZZ Top, from Gene Autry to Barry White, from Barbara Mandrell to
24 Lee Ann Womack, from Johnny Winter to Van Cliburn and from Roy

1 Orbison to Don Henley and many others; and

2 WHEREAS, Texas artists have embraced and helped define nearly
3 every genre of American music, while the commanding influence of
4 Texas songwriters can be heard throughout contemporary music; and

5 WHEREAS, Texas has produced some of the best songwriters of
6 our time who have had a profound influence throughout musical
7 genres. Nothing embodies the spirit of Texas music more than its
8 singer-songwriter tradition. Individualism has combined with
9 communal pride and a vivid sense of place to produce an exquisite --
10 and unmistakably Texan -- storytelling style; and

11 WHEREAS, Texas songwriters are as artistically diverse as the
12 Texas weather, and as awe inspiring as a sunset over The Big Bend.
13 They have told us stories about lost loves--*Me & Bobby McGee*,
14 *Crazy...* discovered inspirations--*Mr. Bojangles...*and childhood
15 memories--*Here Comes Santa Claus...*Texas writers have rocked us,
16 rolled us, and made us cry. Texans have written the soundtracks of
17 our lives with massive movie-based hits like Celine Dion's *My Heart*
18 *Will Go On*; and

19 WHEREAS, Texas music was there at the birth of Rock 'n' Roll,
20 and played a large part in shaping the new sounds. Texans and their
21 music have played an integral part and far reaching role in the
22 evolution of popular culture in America and around the world; and

23 WHEREAS, A Texas Music Hall of Fame will generate economic
24 support and provide new revenue for the State of Texas; and

25 WHEREAS, The Texas Music Hall of Fame, similar to the Rock &
26 Roll Hall of Fame, the Country Music Hall of Fame, and the
27 Experience Museum, will be visited by hundreds of thousands of

1 people annually (the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame has had an economic
2 impact of more than \$140 million since it opened, and the new
3 Country Music Hall of Fame is estimated to generate close to \$130
4 million in new economic activity during the first five years of
5 operation); and

6 WHEREAS, The major cities of Texas have seen a major increase
7 in tourism growth in the last 10 years; and

8 WHEREAS, The Texas Music Hall of Fame Foundation is a
9 nonprofit Texas Corporation and has been issued a Federal trademark
10 on the Principal Register for Education & Entertainment Services
11 and Sound Recordings, and a logo for its name and title by the
12 United States Government; and

13 WHEREAS, The Texas Music Hall of Fame Foundation is a
14 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization; and

15 WHEREAS, The Texas Music Hall of Fame has an Advisory Board of
16 prominent Texans in the business, academic, and entertainment
17 industry, and prominent individuals in the entertainment business;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, The Foundation will combine the interpretive
20 aspects of a historical museum and the audience-drawing qualities
21 of live performances and other popular attractions to celebrate and
22 explore the creativity and innovation of Texas artists and their
23 contributions to American music; and

24 WHEREAS, In 1997, The Texas Music Hall of Fame, Inc. was
25 registered with the State of Texas and received the support of the
26 Office of the Governor; and

27 WHEREAS, In 1999, advertising agency GSD&M became attached as

1 a conduit to sponsorship and underwriting opportunities. GSD&M
2 pledged their services in the development and creation of any and
3 all advertising, marketing, and promotional services that may
4 enhance the profile of the Texas Music Hall of Fame, Inc. GSD&M
5 created the logo for the Texas Music Hall of Fame; and

6 WHEREAS, In 1999, The Advisory Board of the Texas Music Hall
7 of Fame, Inc. was created and prospective candidates for the Board
8 of Governors were established; and

9 WHEREAS, In 2000, the formal plan to create concerts and
10 programming was launched by Texas Music Hall of Fame, Inc.; and

11 WHEREAS, In 2002, the Board of Governors of the Texas Hall of
12 Fame, Inc. finalized the Foundation's Nomination and Induction
13 Criteria, and has put together a preliminary list of nominees for
14 the first group of Hall of Fame Inductees; and

15 WHEREAS, In 2003, the focus of the Texas Music Hall of Fame,
16 Inc. will be to acquire primary sponsorship and secondary financial
17 backing through foundation grants, and non-profit donations for
18 operational support. Activity will begin to collect media material
19 and memorabilia for the permanent collection; and

20 WHEREAS, The Permanent Site Selection Committee has begun
21 discussions with members of the Texas Legislature, the City of
22 Austin, the Austin and Visitors Convention Bureau, and other Texas
23 municipalities about the site for a permanent home of the Hall of
24 Fame; and

25 WHEREAS, It is in the interest of the State of Texas and its
26 citizens that a single entity with the Texas Corporate Charter and
27 the Trademark be designated as the Official Texas Music Hall of

1 Fame, Inc.; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

2 RESOLVED concurrently by the Texas House of Representatives
3 and the Texas Senate that Texas Music Hall of Fame, Inc. be
4 designated and recognized as the Official Texas Hall of Fame for the
5 purpose of inducting therein Texas musicians, songwriters and other
6 Texans who have made significant contributions to the art of music
7 and establishing Texas Music Hall of Fame museums and displays.