

By: Coleman

H.R. No. 1365

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The year 2003 marks the 50th anniversary of the
2 founding of KUHT-TV Channel 8 in Houston, and this milestone truly
3 merits special legislative recognition; and

4 WHEREAS, The first educational television station in the
5 nation, KUHT-TV was established by Walter W. Kemmerer, the
6 president of the University of Houston (UH); the station's
7 inaugural broadcast was on May 25, 1953, from the fifth floor of the
8 Ezekiel W. Cullen Building on the UH campus; and

9 WHEREAS, Shortly thereafter, KUHT-TV began broadcasting
10 college credit courses in psychology, English, sciences, and the
11 arts, and by 1964, the station had moved to a more powerful
12 transmitter that allowed the signal to reach more than 20
13 surrounding counties; and

14 WHEREAS, After UH became a state institution in the late
15 1960s, the Association for Community Television was created to
16 serve as KUHT-TV's support and fund-raising arm; over the ensuing
17 decade, the station became part of the nascent Public Broadcasting
18 Service, which provided audiences the opportunity to see such
19 acclaimed programs as *Nova* and *Masterpiece Theatre*; and

20 WHEREAS, In 1985, KUHT-TV became the first station in Houston
21 to air programming in high-fidelity stereo, and this advancement
22 further enhanced the viewing experience for fans of *Evening at*
23 *Pops*, *Austin City Limits*, *Cosmos*, *MacNeil/Lehrer Newshour*, *Sesame*
24 *Street*, and many other beloved shows; and

1 WHEREAS, KUHT-TV moved to a state-of-the-art facility in
2 2001, which is credited in large part to the generosity of LeRoy and
3 Lucile Melcher, and its programming includes children's shows,
4 music, documentaries, drama, news, and for-credit instruction; and

5 WHEREAS, In the five decades since its founding, KUHT-TV
6 Channel 8 has remained dedicated to providing its viewers with
7 high-quality educational programming, and it is a pleasure to join
8 in celebrating the 50th anniversary of this Texas treasure; now,
9 therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
11 Legislature hereby congratulate all those associated with KUHT-TV
12 Channel 8 on the station's golden anniversary and recognize May 25,
13 2003, as KUHT-TV Channel 8 Day at the State Capitol; and, be it
14 further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
16 prepared for KUHT-TV Channel 8 as an expression of high regard by
17 the Texas House of Representatives.