

By: Strama

H.C.R. No. 14

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Lance Armstrong concluded his professional cycling
2 career in grand style, capturing his seventh consecutive Tour de
3 France victory in front of 500,000 spectators on the
4 Champs-Elysees; and

5 WHEREAS, Relying on the invaluable assistance of his
6 teammates, the strategic and tactical mastery of team director
7 Johan Bruyneel, and his own single-minded determination and will to
8 win, Mr. Armstrong wore the yellow jersey for 17 of the Tour's 21
9 grueling stages; overall, he wore the jersey for 82 stages during
10 his brilliant Tour career, second only to the great Belgian cyclist
11 Eddy Merckx, one of his personal heroes and biggest supporters; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Armstrong's climb to cycling's precipitous
13 heights has been well documented since his recovery from advanced
14 testicular cancer in the late 1990s, and his incredible success in
15 the world's most demanding sporting event has helped to bring
16 needed attention to the plight of cancer victims and survivors;
17 through the Lance Armstrong Foundation, millions of dollars have
18 been raised to help meet the needs of these individuals and their
19 families, and the establishment of the foundation is a significant
20 part of his legacy; and

21 WHEREAS, This year's Tour victory has put an indelible stamp
22 on what was already the greatest and most inspirational career in
23 professional cycling; after winning the 2004 Tour with yet another
24 superhuman effort, and surpassing five-time winners Miguel

1 Indurain, Bernard Hinault, Jacques Anquetil, and Merckx, the Texan
2 dominated the 2005 event with the help of his Discovery Channel
3 teammates; and

4 WHEREAS, Opening the race with a second-place finish in the
5 prologue, an individual time trial, Mr. Armstrong stepped to the
6 podium two stages later as the general classification leader
7 following his team's win in the Stage 3 team time trial; over the
8 next two weeks, he staved off attacks from several challengers in
9 the demanding mountain stages and proudly watched as team members
10 George Hincapie and Paolo Salvodelli boosted the team's overall
11 ranking with stage victories of their own; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Armstrong sealed his seventh title with a
13 dominating performance in Stage 20, a highly technical individual
14 time trial that allowed him to demonstrate the breadth of his
15 abilities and enabled him to extend his already imposing lead over
16 his challengers; his victory left no doubt in the minds of his
17 rivals, who could only praise him for his superlative physical
18 ability and unparalleled mental toughness, as they look forward to
19 next year, when the Tour de France will have a new victor; and

20 WHEREAS, With his final win in the 2005 Tour de France, Mr.
21 Armstrong has distanced himself from the field, establishing a
22 record that will likely never be broken or equaled, and this
23 accomplishment, as well as his continuing efforts in support of
24 cancer victims and survivors, has made him a hero to countless fans
25 throughout the world; now, therefore, be it

26 RESOLVED, That the 79th Legislature of the State of Texas,
27 2nd Called Session, hereby congratulate Lance Armstrong on his

1 unprecedented seventh consecutive victory in the Tour de France and
2 honor him on his remarkable career in professional cycling; and, be
3 it further

4 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
5 prepared for Mr. Armstrong as an expression of high regard by the
6 Texas House of Representatives and Senate.