

By: Gallego

H.R. No. 363

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The passing of Allen Wayne Damron of Terlingua on  
2 August 13, 2005, at the age of 66, deeply saddened the many fans of  
3 this talented and generous man; and

4           WHEREAS, Born and raised in Raymondville, Mr. Damron showed  
5 an aptitude for music at a young age and maintained his interest in  
6 performing throughout his life; he received his first guitar at the  
7 age of eight and began performing in public when he was in the fifth  
8 grade; and

9           WHEREAS, Mr. Damron's first professional appearance occurred  
10 at the age of 18 at Lon Morris College, where he earned an  
11 associate's degree in drama in 1959; he later received a bachelor's  
12 degree in psychology from The University of Texas at Austin; and

13           WHEREAS, In 1962, Mr. Damron recorded his first album, a  
14 collaboration with Carol Hedin called *Two for the Show*; he spent the  
15 next several years working variously as a dive guide off South Padre  
16 Island and as a hired hand at Apache Ranch and L. L. Davis Ranch; and

17           WHEREAS, Mr. Damron's love for music and entertainment led to  
18 a job as host of a popular weekly television show and a nightly  
19 radio gig in the late 1960s; he later owned and managed the  
20 Chequered Flag in Austin, a seminal venue that played host to such  
21 luminaries as Janis Joplin, Nanci Griffith, and Jerry Jeff Walker  
22 and gave birth to the famed "Austin sound" that helped define that  
23 musical era; he also managed the Rubiayat in Dallas and was the  
24 cofounder and first director of the Kerrville Folk Festival; and

1           WHEREAS, In 1986, the Texas Legislature recognized his  
2 pioneering work in Texas music when they named Mr. Damron a  
3 "goodwill ambassador to the world"; a decade later, he released his  
4 first compact disc, entitled *35 Years*, and in 1998 he was featured  
5 on the television program "The All You Can Eat Texas Music Café";  
6 and

7           WHEREAS, The many accomplishments and achievements of Allen  
8 Wayne Damron run the entertainment gamut, from acting to  
9 songwriting to storytelling, and his legacy of success in all his  
10 undertakings gained him the great respect of audiences across the  
11 state and around the world; more important, however, is the  
12 integrity and enthusiasm that characterized all that he did, for  
13 those qualities were essential to his life and work; now,  
14 therefore, be it

15           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
16 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of  
17 Allen Wayne Damron and extend sincere sympathy to his wife, Marie,  
18 to his other family members, Mona Sizer, Esther Damron, Jack  
19 Damron, Denise Bindell, A. Y. Damron, and Mildred Hearn, and to his  
20 many friends; and, be it further

21           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
22 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
23 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Allen Wayne  
24 Damron.