

By: Giddings

H.C.R. No. 43

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1           WHEREAS, The Texas Silver-Haired Legislature is celebrating,  
2 in 2005, the 20th anniversary of its creation; and

3           WHEREAS, Designed as a model legislature for senior citizens,  
4 the first Silver-Haired Legislature was organized in Missouri in  
5 1973, and since that time a number of states have established  
6 similar programs; and

7           WHEREAS, The Texas Silver-Haired Legislature was created in  
8 1985 with the assistance of enabling legislation passed during the  
9 69th Texas Legislature, and its inaugural session was gaveled to  
10 order in September 1986; the Silver-Haired Legislature serves as a  
11 means of informing older Texans about the legislative process and  
12 provides a forum where they can discuss issues particularly  
13 affecting senior citizens; policy recommendations drafted by  
14 delegates to the Silver-Haired Legislature are then submitted to  
15 the governor, to the real legislature, and to the Texas Department  
16 of Aging and Disability Services for consideration; and

17           WHEREAS, In addition to holding their own mock sessions,  
18 members of the Silver-Haired Legislature participate in, and  
19 encourage attendance at, numerous real legislative hearings and  
20 policy discussions throughout the state, in the interest of making  
21 the voices of the elderly better heard; the Silver-Haired  
22 Legislature also hosts seminars to coordinate its statewide efforts  
23 and to educate its membership about new technologies and policy  
24 initiatives; and

1           WHEREAS, In commemoration of this notable milestone, a dinner  
2 honoring the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature is being held on  
3 February 8, 2005, as part of the ceremonies marking the third Senior  
4 Day at the Capitol; and

5           WHEREAS, For two decades, Texans participating in the  
6 Silver-Haired Legislature have rendered exemplary service to their  
7 fellow citizens through their thoughtful, insightful engagement in  
8 a wide array of public-policy issues, and this program is indeed  
9 deserving of recognition and commendation for its contributions to  
10 the quality of life in the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

11           RESOLVED, That the 79th Legislature of the State of Texas,  
12 Regular Session, 2005, hereby honor the Texas Silver-Haired  
13 Legislature on the 20th anniversary of its creation and extend to  
14 all those who have supported this endeavor sincere appreciation.