

By: Hilderbran

H.C.R. No. 214

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The Texas Commission on the Arts has announced the
2 2005 and 2006 appointments for the positions of State Poet
3 Laureate, State Musician, State Two-Dimensional Artist, and State
4 Three-Dimensional Artist; and

5 WHEREAS, Honorees are chosen for the exceptional quality of
6 their work and for their outstanding commitment to the arts in
7 Texas; the 2005 appointees are Texas Poet Laureate Alan Birkelbach
8 of Plano, Texas State Musician Johnny Gimble of Tyler, Texas State
9 Two-Dimensional Artist Kathy Vargas of San Antonio, and Texas State
10 Three-Dimensional Artist Sharon Kopriva of Houston; and

11 WHEREAS, The 2006 appointees include Texas Poet Laureate Red
12 Steagall of Fort Worth, Texas State Musician Billy Joe Shaver of
13 Waco, Texas State Two-Dimensional Artist George Boutwell of Bosque,
14 and Texas State Three-Dimensional Artist James Surls of Athens; and

15 WHEREAS, Nominees for these prestigious positions must
16 either be native Texans or have resided in the state for at least
17 five years; in addition, they must have received critical reviews
18 in state, regional, or national publications, and they must have
19 achieved recognition for high levels of excellence and success in
20 their respective disciplines; and

21 WHEREAS, To be considered for the position of State Poet
22 Laureate, nominees must have compiled a substantial body of work,
23 including at least one publication that is not a self-published or
24 vanity-press release; State Musician nominees must have produced a

1 substantial body of work, including at least two nationally
2 available records, or taught music for at least 20 years in a formal
3 classroom, or they must receive the majority of their income from
4 musical endeavors; State Visual Artist nominees must work in two-
5 or three-dimensional art mediums, must have been represented in at
6 least one one-person show, and must have an extensive history of
7 exhibiting in recognized museums and galleries; and

8 WHEREAS, Nominations are made by Texas citizens and reviewed
9 by the Texas Commission on the Arts, which develops a list of
10 finalists; the Texas Poet Laureate, State Musician, and State
11 Artist Committee, composed of members appointed by the governor,
12 lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house of representatives,
13 makes the final selections; and

14 WHEREAS, The men and women who have been selected to hold
15 these distinguished posts for the next two years have contributed
16 magnificently to the vibrant cultural life of the Lone Star State,
17 and it is indeed a pleasure to recognize them at this time; now,
18 therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the 79th Legislature of the State of Texas
20 hereby honor the 2005 and 2006 appointees to the positions of State
21 Poet Laureate, State Musician, State Two-Dimensional Artist, and
22 State Three-Dimensional Artist and extend to them sincere best
23 wishes for continued success.