

By: Hunter

H.R. No. 1218

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Dr. Charles Nelson, an esteemed musician and accomplished vocalist in the world of opera, has authored a unique collection of memories and biographies regarding a specially selected group of choral directors who have distinguished themselves in the history of choral work in Texas; and

WHEREAS, This collection has been published in a limited edition entitled "Lest We Forget"; and

WHEREAS, This book contains historical references to important musicians, singers and choral directors who earned degrees from many distinguished universities and who are all individually talented and accomplished throughout a lifetime of achievement; and

WHEREAS, These exceptional individuals have developed outstanding careers with their music and have mastered the art of sharing their talents with others; and

WHEREAS, These dedicated individuals have used their talents and energies to teach young people ranging from elementary to collegiate students as well as adults in many community endeavors; and

WHEREAS, These accomplished musicians have truly led outstanding lives and have taught and motivated countless other musicians; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Nelson has written this volume as a tribute to his fellow choral directors over a lifetime of admiration, respect

and friendship; and

WHEREAS, He has overcome the effects of polio contracted at an early age in life and has gone on to serve as a faithful husband, father, grandfather, brother and Christian example to all who have known and loved him including his brother Byron Nelson, the legendary golfer; and

WHEREAS, He completed two music degrees at the University of North Texas and has been recognized with an honorary doctorate from Abilene Christian University; and

WHEREAS, He has performed vocally with more than fifty symphony orchestras throughout the country and has performed in forty-five states throughout our great nation; and

WHEREAS, He has distinguished himself as a teacher and professor of music in the public schools of Texas; David Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tennessee; East Texas State University in Commerce, Texas; and has served as Artist in Residence at Abilene Christian University; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dan Wood, recognized in this book as being an outstanding choral director and performer in his own right and has achieved many singing accolades for more than a dozen years with the River City Pops, an adult community choir in Austin, Texas, and also has sung with the First United Methodist Sanctuary Choir in Austin, Texas; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wood is an actor with a theater company in Austin and is the Executive Director of the Texas Choral Directors Association; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wood is married to the former Marilyn Good and

they have four married children and six grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Others recognized in the book as distinguished choral directors are Dr. Wilfred C. Bain, Dr. Euell Porter, Mrs. Julia Dean Evans, Mr. Frank McKinley, Mr. Michael Johnstone, Mr. Gene Kenney, Dr. Lloyd Pfautsch, Mr. A. M. "Al" Autrey, Dr. B. R. "Bev" Henson, Dr. Ruth Whitlock, and Dr. Hugh Sanders; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Nelson is married to the former Betty Brown and they have three children and seven grandchildren and they have contributed to the artistic endeavors of communities in Texas and Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Nelson performed at the Governor's Mansion in Austin, Texas, at the invitation of Governor Ann Richards on May 29, 1993 with the accolades of state leadership, legislators, outstanding citizens and many friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas Legislature commend Dr. Charles Nelson as the author of this splendid tribute to these Texas Choral Directors in "Lest We Forget" and for his lifetime achievements as a music scholar, teacher, vocal performer and as a great Texan; and, it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for Dr. Nelson, his family, and his friends as an expression of high regard from the Texas House of Representatives.