

By: Madla, Estes

S.C.R. No. 16

1 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, In recognition of both the direct and indirect
3 revenues that could be generated for the state by a robust wine
4 industry, Lt. Governor Dewhurst charged the Senate Committee on
5 Intergovernmental Relations Committee of the 78th Legislature to
6 study and make recommendations relating to the development of the
7 Texas wine producing industry; assess the impact of state and
8 federal laws on the shipment and delivery of wine; and make
9 recommendations for increasing the economic impact of the wine
10 producing industry in Texas; and

11 WHEREAS, The Senate Committee on Intergovernmental Relations
12 found that Texas has all the elements necessary to be a competitive
13 force in the national and international wine industries; the Texas
14 wine producing industry could prove to be a stellar economic
15 generator for the state of Texas; with the proper policies in place,
16 the Texas wine producing industry is positioned to boom within the
17 next 5 to 10 years; although progress has been made throughout the
18 years, insufficient funding and budget reductions for new and
19 existing education, training, and research hinder the development
20 of the industry; and the lack of a consistent, coordinated, and
21 centralized effort among industry stakeholders and public policy
22 makers to develop appropriate programs and policies; explore,
23 develop and access relevant funding streams; and communicate
24 concerns and needs to appropriate parties impedes the development

1 of this industry to its full potential; and

2 WHEREAS, Texas wines are gaining recognition through state,
3 national, and international competitions; and

4 WHEREAS, There are a number of state and federal programs and
5 funding streams that could be accessed to facilitate the further
6 growth of the Texas wine industry; and

7 WHEREAS, It would be most beneficial to make certain that
8 relevant state agencies are aware of the potential value of the
9 industry and its needs; and

10 WHEREAS, There are occasions where agencies of the state and
11 state institutions of higher education organize, sponsor, or fund
12 events where alcoholic beverages are served; and

13 WHEREAS, If it is the policy of this state to support the
14 Texas wine industry, it is only logical that Texas wines be included
15 at state sponsored events and in state operated facilities where
16 other alcoholic beverages are served; now, therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That the 79th Legislature of the State of Texas
18 hereby recognize the importance of the emerging Texas wine industry
19 and request of all relevant agencies of the state and institutions
20 of higher education their best effort to recognize and secure, from
21 the federal government or other appropriate resource, any funding
22 or other assistance that might be available to support the
23 protection and growth of the Texas wine industry; and, therefore be
24 it further

25 RESOLVED, That the service of Texas wines be included at all
26 state dinners, meetings, conferences and other events and in all
27 state or university facilities where wine or other alcoholic

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1 beverages are served.