

1-1 By: Martinez (Senate Sponsor - Hinojosa) H.C.R. No. 12
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 14, 2007;
1-3 May 15, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Government Organization; May 17, 2007, reported favorably by the
1-5 following vote: Yeas 4, Nays 0; May 17, 2007, sent to printer.)

1-6 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-7 WHEREAS, The State of Texas has customarily recognized a
1-8 variety of official symbols as tangible representations of the
1-9 state's culture and natural history; and

1-10 WHEREAS, The heritage of the Lone Star State is closely
1-11 associated with images of cowboys and the western frontier, and
1-12 these elements inform several of the current Texas symbols,
1-13 including rodeo, the official state sport, and the longhorn, the
1-14 state large mammal; and

1-15 WHEREAS, A singular fashion associated with the American West
1-16 is the bolo tie, also known as the bola tie, which is distinguished
1-17 by its decorative clasp that fastens a length of cord or string; a
1-18 staple of the western-wear fashions sported by a large number of
1-19 Texans, the bolo tie conjures up the romance of the pioneer era and
1-20 speaks to the determination and independence that figure so
1-21 prominently in Lone Star lore; and

1-22 WHEREAS, Patented in 1959 by an Arizona silversmith named
1-23 Victor Cedarstaff, who was said to have gotten the inspiration for
1-24 the design while on horseback, the bolo tie has been traced to older
1-25 elements of ranching culture and the people of the western United
1-26 States; the name derives from the bola or *boleadora*--a lariat with
1-27 weights at the end that was used by South American cowboys to
1-28 ensnare cattle; stylistically, it is similar to the string or
1-29 plantation ties popular in the era when Texas was being settled, and
1-30 it also resembles a type of tie worn by Native Americans in the
1-31 early 1900s, which consisted of a bandanna or string fastened by a
1-32 silver concho ornament; and

1-33 WHEREAS, The bolo tie remains popular among many American
1-34 Indians, and intricate designs fashioned by Native American
1-35 craftspeople using silver, turquoise, and other materials stand as
1-36 some of the finest examples of bolo tie artistry; these factors make
1-37 the neckwear a poignant testament to this region's original
1-38 inhabitants and also to the many people of American Indian descent
1-39 who are today Texas residents; and

1-40 WHEREAS, A fashion accessory that can be personalized to
1-41 reflect the wearer's taste and interests, the bolo tie is well
1-42 matched to the individualism that is so much a part of the Texan
1-43 identity; in selecting or designing a clasp, bolo tie wearers are
1-44 able to express their personal flair; moreover, the selection of a
1-45 bolo over a standard tie can suggest that the wearer refuses to be
1-46 bound by convention and relishes the freedom to exhibit a
1-47 distinctive sense of style even as they maintain a dignified,
1-48 formal appearance; and

1-49 WHEREAS, The bolo tie symbolizes both the state's iconic
1-50 western culture and the originality of its residents, and it is
1-51 indeed appropriate that this handsome and unique apparel receive
1-52 special legislative recognition; now, therefore, be it

1-53 RESOLVED, That the 80th Legislature of the State of Texas
1-54 hereby designate the bolo tie as the official State Tie of Texas.

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