

1-1 By: Strama (Senate Sponsor - Brimer) H.C.R. No. 111  
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 2, 2007;  
1-3 May 15, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on  
1-4 Administration; May 18, 2007, reported favorably by the following  
1-5 vote: Yeas 4, Nays 0; May 18, 2007, sent to printer.)

1-6 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-7 WHEREAS, The lasting promise of our great nation, that of  
1-8 freedom from oppression and the preservation of individual liberty,  
1-9 is the fundamental theme of the very document upon which our system  
1-10 of government was founded; and

1-11 WHEREAS, The central importance of the principles outlined in  
1-12 the United States Constitution once prompted President Harry S.  
1-13 Truman to describe it as "a living force"; similarly, President  
1-14 Ronald Reagan evoked the power of the individual liberties  
1-15 safeguarded by the constitution, referring to "a government which  
1-16 empowers its people" as "mankind's best defense against tyranny,"  
1-17 and nowhere are these constitutional guarantees regarding the  
1-18 rights of the individual articulated more clearly than in the first  
1-19 10 articles--the aptly named Bill of Rights; and

1-20 WHEREAS, While the Capitol grounds and adjacent state  
1-21 properties display statues, memorials, and commemorations of  
1-22 people, ideals, and events that demonstrate our country's abiding  
1-23 dedication to the values established by the Bill of Rights, there is  
1-24 no tribute to the document itself; and

1-25 WHEREAS, Chapter 443 of the Government Code authorizes the  
1-26 State Preservation Board to preserve, maintain, and restore the  
1-27 Capitol grounds and requires proposals to construct a monument or  
1-28 other improvement to the Capitol Complex to be submitted to the  
1-29 board for review; Section 443.0071, Government Code, defines the  
1-30 Capitol Complex to mean the state-owned property within the area  
1-31 bounded on the north by Martin Luther King, Jr., Boulevard, bounded  
1-32 on the east by Trinity Street, bounded on the south by 10th Street,  
1-33 and bounded on the west by Lavaca Street; and

1-34 WHEREAS, Furthermore, adjoining portions of the Capitol  
1-35 Complex are grounds preserved and maintained by the Texas Building  
1-36 and Procurement Commission, which is specifically authorized by  
1-37 Section 116.3, Title 1, Texas Administrative Code, to approve  
1-38 modifications or improvements to state-owned property under the  
1-39 commission's jurisdiction; and

1-40 WHEREAS, Members of the Texas Legislature find a  
1-41 commemorative structure to honor the Bill of Rights to be a worthy  
1-42 addition to the Capitol grounds or adjacent state property and  
1-43 endorse the incorporation there of a work that will convey to  
1-44 visitors a sense of history and the faith in human liberty  
1-45 symbolized by this document; now, therefore, be it

1-46 RESOLVED, That the 80th Legislature of the State of Texas  
1-47 hereby authorize the State Preservation Board and the Texas  
1-48 Building and Procurement Commission, subject to state law and rules  
1-49 of the board and commission, to approve and permit the construction  
1-50 of a monument on the Capitol grounds or adjacent state property  
1-51 commemorating the Bill of Rights of the United States Constitution;  
1-52 and, be it further

1-53 RESOLVED, That the board and commission be encouraged to  
1-54 locate the monument on the Supreme Court Plaza, unless another more  
1-55 appropriate site within the Capitol Complex becomes available; and,  
1-56 be it further

1-57 RESOLVED, That no public funds be used for the design and  
1-58 construction of the monument and that the State of Texas not  
1-59 facilitate fund-raising nor establish a state fund for the deposit  
1-60 of money raised for the design and construction of the monument;  
1-61 and, be it further

1-62 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward an  
1-63 official copy of this resolution to the executive directors of the  
1-64 State Preservation Board and the Texas Building and Procurement

2-1 Commission.

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