

By: Gallego

H.R. No. 411

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The celebrated Texas author David Marion Wilkinson has brought distinction to himself and to the Lone Star State through the success of his fine works of fiction and nonfiction; and

WHEREAS, Born in Arkansas, Mr. Wilkinson moved to Texas in 1972 and graduated from The University of Texas with a bachelor's degree in English in 1980; like many writers, he has had a peripatetic career, working as a carpenter, a mortgage loan officer, a private investigator, and an oil field worker; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wilkinson's work reflects both his own colorful life story and his deep love of history; his first novel, *Not Between Brothers*, an epic saga of the clash of cultures in the early years of Texas, won the 1997 Violet Crown Award for fiction; his second novel, *The Empty Quarter*, was inspired by his own experiences working in the oil fields of Saudi Arabia and the North Sea; and

WHEREAS, *Oblivion's Altar*, Mr. Wilkinson's third novel, tells the tragic story of the Cherokee Chief Major Ridge and won the 2003 Spur Award for Best Original Paperback; with Joaquin Jackson, Wilkinson penned *One Ranger*, a memoir of Jackson's dramatic career as a Texas Ranger; recently released in paperback, it is the fastest-selling book in the history of The University of Texas Press; and

WHEREAS, Now working on a contemporary novel set in the spectacular Big Bend country of West Texas, this outstanding writer

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further contributes to the artistic life of Texas as writer-in-residence at Sul Ross State University in Alpine; he also sits on the board of Ozark Creative Writers and is a member of the Western Writers of America; and

WHEREAS, With four fine books to date and more to come, David Marion Wilkinson is a bright star in the firmament of Texas literature, and through his service to the students of Sul Ross State University, he is an inspiration and a mentor to young Texas writers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas Legislature hereby congratulate David Marion Wilkinson on his many accomplishments and commend him for his contribution to the cultural heritage of the Lone Star State; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be prepared for Mr. Wilkinson as a token of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.