

By: Dukes

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R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A state replete with diverse landscapes, iconic
2 American legends, and talented residents, Texas has long been a
3 favorite location for motion picture and television productions,
4 and that rich and ongoing tradition is being celebrated on Texas
5 Film Industry Day, which is taking place at the State Capitol on
6 March 6, 2007; and

7 WHEREAS, More than 1,500 films and television programs have
8 been made in Texas since 1910, and the first movie ever to win the
9 Academy Award for Best Picture, the silent World War I epic *Wings*,
10 was shot in and around San Antonio; and

11 WHEREAS, Audiences all over the world have discovered the
12 Lone Star State through films and television programs made here;
13 *Giant*, filmed near Marfa, tells the sprawling story of cattle and
14 oil in West Texas; no less than three films about the siege of the
15 Alamo have been made in Texas, including John Wayne's 1960 epic *The*
16 *Alamo*; the film and television series *Friday Night Lights* tell the
17 distinctively Texan story of high school football; and week after
18 week *Austin City Limits* brings the best of American popular music to
19 the nation with a Texas flair; and

20 WHEREAS, Great filmmakers from all over the world have
21 journeyed to Texas to make their films; Steven Spielberg shot his
22 first feature, *The Sugarland Express*, here; Sam Peckinpah filmed
23 his classic thriller *The Getaway* in El Paso; Clint Eastwood has made
24 several films in Texas, including *A Perfect World* and *Space*

1 Cowboys; and the German director Wim Wenders shot his art house
2 masterpiece *Paris, Texas* in locations all over the state; and

3 WHEREAS, Texas has hosted a staggering variety of
4 productions, from independent comedies like *Waiting for Guffman*
5 (shot in Lockhart) to gritty westerns like *Barbarosa* (shot in Big
6 Bend) to war films like *Courage Under Fire* (shot in El Paso and
7 Austin) to sci-fi thrillers like *The Faculty* (shot in San Marcos) to
8 romantic comedies like *Hope Floats* (shot in Smithville) to classic
9 horror films like *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre* (shot in Austin); and

10 WHEREAS, Texas' own writers and directors have brought many
11 great projects to the state, including Robert Benton (*Bonnie and*
12 *Clyde, Places in the Heart*), Horton Foote (*Tender Mercies, The Trip*
13 *to Bountiful*), and William Witliff (*Lonesome Dove, Honeysuckle*
14 *Rose, Raggedy Man*); and

15 WHEREAS, A younger generation of dynamic Texan filmmakers is
16 carrying on this great tradition, including Wes Anderson (*Bottle*
17 *Rocket, Rushmore*), Richard Linklater (*Slacker, Dazed and Confused,*
18 *The Newton Boys*), Robert Rodriguez (*Spy Kids, Sin City*), and John
19 Lee Hancock (*The Alamo, The Rookie*); and

20 WHEREAS, Archer City's own Larry McMurtry, the Pulitzer
21 Prize-winning novelist and Academy Award-winning screenwriter, has
22 seen 10 of his novels made into films and miniseries in his home
23 state, including *Lonesome Dove, Terms of Endearment, Hud, The Last*
24 *Picture Show, and Texasville*; these productions have contributed
25 \$65 million to the state's economy; and

26 WHEREAS, Filmmakers have been drawn from all over the world
27 by this vast state's diverse locations, from the metropolitan

1 cities of Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston, El Paso, San Antonio, and
2 Austin, to such colorful locations as Lockhart, Martindale, Marfa,
3 Caddo Lake, Dripping Springs, Bartlett, Roma, the Alamo Village
4 near Bracketville, and the spectacular Big Bend National Park; when
5 Texas isn't playing itself, the state has also stood in for such
6 locations as Berlin, Afghanistan, Africa, Manhattan, Morocco, and
7 Washington DC; and

8 WHEREAS, Texas is equally blessed with a roster of
9 world-class performers; Texas actors, in roles both large and
10 small, have brought their considerable talents to every kind of
11 film and television project in Texas, and have helped make the
12 Dallas area a national center for commercial and corporate
13 production; and

14 WHEREAS, Texas is the birthplace of Academy Award winners
15 Sissy Spacek, Tommy Lee Jones, Renee Zellweger, Jamie Foxx, and
16 Forest Whitaker, and of Emmy winners Carol Burnett and Steve
17 Martin; other outstanding Texas actors include Debbie Allen, Alexis
18 Bledel, Cyd Charisse, Barry Corbin, Hilary Duff, Morgan Fairchild,
19 Farrah Fawcett, Jennifer Garner, Larry Hagman, Beyoncé, Eva
20 Longoria, Matthew McConaughey, Fess Parker, Bill Paxton, Dennis
21 Quaid, Randy Quaid, Debbie Reynolds, Patrick Swayze, Henry Thomas,
22 Janine Turner, Owen Wilson, Luke Wilson, and Robin Wright Penn; and

23 WHEREAS, Along with extensive production facilities in
24 Dallas, Fort Worth, Austin, San Antonio, and Houston, the large
25 corps of professional, resident film crew members is one of the
26 state's major assets in attracting film production; in the last 10
27 years alone, film dollars spent in Texas have topped \$1.7 billion;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, With the invaluable assistance of the Texas Film
3 Commission, founded by Governor Preston Smith in 1971, and regional
4 film commissions in Austin, Houston, Dallas, San Antonio, Amarillo,
5 Brownsville, El Paso, and South Padre Island, the Texas film and
6 television industry continues to thrive, building on a nearly
7 100-year-old tradition of great filmmaking, and looking forward to
8 an even more exciting future; thus it is fitting that the many past
9 successes and brilliant promise of this exciting industry be
10 celebrated today; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
12 Legislature hereby recognize March 6, 2007, as Texas Film Industry
13 Day at the State Capitol and express its best wishes for the
14 continued success of this essential part of Texas culture and
15 commerce.