

By: Hopson

H.R. No. 707

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The city of Carthage has played a significant role
2 in the history of country music, and its citizens have worked
3 tirelessly to preserve this strong heritage; and

4 WHEREAS, Many country music legends were raised in Carthage,
5 including Tex Ritter, the first country singer to have three hits on
6 the Billboard Top Ten at the same time and the star of more than 70
7 Western movies, internationally known country music performer Jim
8 Reeves, songwriter Glenn Sutton, and Linda Davis, who tours with
9 Reba McEntire and Kenny Rogers; and

10 WHEREAS, In 1993, the self-proclaimed Country Music Capital
11 of Texas opened the Tex Ritter Museum on the top floor of a building
12 that houses the chamber of commerce, and fans from across the globe
13 traveled to see the 3,000-square-foot memorial to a music legend;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Several years later, residents and organizers
16 decided to expand the museum and opened the Texas Country Music Hall
17 of Fame to honor the many legends with connections to Tex Ritter and
18 the Lone Star State; in 2002, the city celebrated the grand opening
19 of a \$2.5 million facility to house the museum's tributes to artists
20 such as Gene Autry, Willie Nelson, Waylon Jennings, and Kris
21 Kristofferson; and

22 WHEREAS, Each year, in late summer, the city hosts a weekend
23 of country music entertainment, including a hall of fame induction
24 ceremony, showcase performance, and Tex Ritter Roundup, and the

1 occasion has become a highly anticipated event for residents and
2 tourists alike; and

3 WHEREAS, Preserving the cultural and artistic heritage of the
4 State of Texas depends on the dedication of its citizens, and the
5 people of Carthage set an exceptional standard with their
6 commitment to showcasing the many achievements of our homegrown
7 country music legends; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
9 Legislature hereby honor the city of Carthage for its contributions
10 to country music and extend to all its residents sincere best wishes
11 for continued success in preserving their rich heritage.