

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Today the Texas House of Representatives honors the
2 many accomplishments and generous contributions of a great Texan
3 and a legendary musician and composer, Joe Sample; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Houston on February 1, 1939, Joseph Leslie
5 Sample was playing the piano at the age of five; he was already
6 soaking in all the various musical influences of Houston's Fifth
7 Ward, from gospel to rock and roll, from Latin to soul to zydeco,
8 and from jazz and blues to classical music; and

9 WHEREAS, With his boyhood friends Wayne Henderson, Wilton
10 Felder, and Stix Hooper, Joe Sample formed a group in high school
11 called the Swingsters; they continued to play together while
12 attending Texas Southern University, then moved to Los Angeles in
13 1960; renaming the group the Jazz Crusaders, they gained a national
14 reputation playing jazz inflected by what they had heard growing up
15 on the streets of Houston; and

16 WHEREAS, Changing their name again in 1971, the musicians
17 became simply the Crusaders, and their fusion of jazz, soul, and
18 rhythm and blues became one of the signature sounds of American
19 popular music; working with such performers as Marvin Gaye, Joni
20 Mitchell, and Steely Dan, they recorded a series of iconic albums,
21 including *The Second Crusade*, *Unsung Heroes*, *Southern Comfort*,
22 *Chain Reaction*, and *Those Southern Knights*, culminating in 1979
23 with their international hit "Street Life"; and

24 WHEREAS, Joe Sample's first solo album, *Rainbow Seeker*,

1 released in 1978, was a masterpiece of lyricism and introspection;
2 his catalog of songs from "Street Life" to "When Your Life Was Low"
3 to "Dear Mama" has been covered by a multitude of artists; Nicole
4 Kidman sang his hit "Someday I'll Fly Away" in the film *Moulin*
5 *Rouge*, and his recordings have been sampled by contemporary artists
6 including Tupac, Queen Latifah, Ice Cube, Destiny's Child, and Lil'
7 Bow Wow; a sought-after keyboardist, he has performed throughout
8 the years with such artists as Eric Clapton, B. B. King, Tina
9 Turner, Joan Baez, the Beach Boys, George Benson, and Gladys
10 Knight; and

11 WHEREAS, He continues to write and perform to great acclaim;
12 his recent recordings include the Crusaders reunion *Rural Renewal*;
13 his collaboration with vocalist Randy Crawford, entitled *Feeling*
14 *Good*; and his 2002 release, *The Pecan Tree*, which highlights the
15 music and culture of southeast Texas; and

16 WHEREAS, In 2005, he returned to his hometown of Houston and
17 established the Joe Sample Youth Organization, through which he
18 raises money for inner-city schools, including his old elementary
19 school, Our Mother of Mercy Catholic School, the oldest
20 historically African American elementary school in Houston;
21 through a series of concerts, Mr. Sample has raised over \$100,000
22 for the schools; his third annual fund-raising concert is scheduled
23 for September of this year; and

24 WHEREAS, Joe Sample's contributions to the musical heritage
25 of the Lone Star State are immeasurable, and he remains one of
26 America's most influential performers and composers; the joy and
27 excitement he has brought generations of fans are matched only by

H.R. No. 911

1 his selfless and committed service to his community, and his
2 enormous talent is matched only by his generous heart; now,
3 therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
5 Legislature hereby honor Joe Sample for the gift of his music and
6 for his devotion to his community and extend to him very best wishes
7 for the future; and, be it further

8 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
9 prepared for Mr. Sample as an expression of high regard by the Texas
10 House of Representatives.

Dutton

Craddick	Gattis	Miles
Allen	Geren	Miller
Alonzo	Giddings	Moreno
Anchia	Gonzales	Morrison
Anderson	Gonzalez Toureilles	Mowery
Aycock	Goolsby	Murphy
Bailey	Guillen	Naishtat
Berman	Haggerty	Noriega
Bohac	Hamilton	O'Day
Bolton	Hancock	Oliveira
Bonnen	Hardcastle	Olivo
Branch	Harless	Orr
Brown of Kaufman	Harper-Brown	Ortiz, Jr.
Brown of Brazos	Hartnett	Otto
Burnam	Heflin	Parker
Callegari	Hernandez	Patrick
Castro	Herrero	Paxton
Chavez	Hilderbran	Pena
Chisum	Hill	Phillips
Christian	Hochberg	Pickett
Cohen	Hodge	Pierson
Coleman	Homer	Pitts
Cook of Navarro	Hopson	Puente
Cook of Colorado	Howard of Fort Bend	Quintanilla
Corte	Howard of Travis	Raymond
Crabb	Hughes	Riddle
Creighton	Isett	Ritter
Crownover	Jackson	Rodriguez
Darby	Jones	Rose
Davis of Harris	Keffer	Smith of Tarrant
Davis of Dallas	King of Parker	Smith of Harris
Delisi	King of Taylor	Smithee
Deshotel	King of Zavala	Solomons
Driver	Kolkhorst	Strama
Dukes	Krusee	Straus
Dunnam	Kuempel	Swinford
Dutton	Latham	Talton
Eiland	Laubenberg	Taylor
Eissler	Leibowitz	Thompson
Elkins	Lucio III	Truitt
England	Macias	Turner
Escobar	Madden	Van Arsdale
Farabee	Mallory Caraway	Vaught
Farias	Martinez	Veasey
Farrar	Martinez Fischer	Villarreal
Flores	McCall	Vo
Flynn	McClendon	West
Frost	McReynolds	Woolley
Gallego	Menendez	Zedler
Garcia	Merritt	Zerwas

H.R. No. 911

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 911 was adopted by the House on March 22, 2007, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House