H.R. No. 1982

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, A beloved entertainer who is as compassionate as she 1 2 is talented, Reba McEntire has devoted extensive time and effort 3 over the past two decades to benefit the Texoma Medical Center; and WHEREAS, Ms. McEntire will mark the 20th anniversary of her 4 5 involvement with TMC by staging the "Fly Away with Reba" grand concert gala on May 27, 2007, at the Grayson County Airport in 6 Denison; and 7 WHEREAS, Known simply as Reba to her fervent fans, Ms. 8 McEntire staged her first concert to raise funds for TMC in 1987; 9 that single event raised \$55,000, which was used to fund the Reba 10 11 McEntire Nurseries; and

WHEREAS, Her second benefit concert took place in 1989 and became the centerpiece for a number of related events held on Memorial Day weekend, including fishing, tennis, and basketball tournaments and a parade; the Reba Charity Golf Classic was also launched that year and continues to be a popular annual fund-raiser for TMC; and

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17 18 WHEREAS, With the passing years, additional hospital facilities were underwritten through Ms. McEntire's assistance; 19 20 Reba's Ranch House opened in 1992 and provides 21 home-away-from-home for families who have loved ones undergoing 22 care at the hospital; three years later, the Reba McEntire Center 23 for Rehabilitation began operations, and the Reba Mobile 24 Mammography Unit hit the road in 2000; and

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1 WHEREAS, In recent years, Reba McEntire's career has expanded 2 from country music to Broadway performances, a television series, and her own line of clothing and home decor, but her commitment to 3 4 the Texoma area has remained undiminished; another successful 5 benefit concert was held in 2005, and the 20th anniversary gala will 6 provide vital funds to help finance the construction of another Reba's Ranch House at the new medical center facilities that will 7 8 open in 2010; and

WHEREAS, Entertainers who use their talent and fame to benefit others are deserving of gratitude and respect, and in being a steadfast TMC benefactor for 20 years, Reba McEntire has made a tremendous contribution to the residents of northern Texas and southern Oklahoma; now, therefore, be it

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RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas Legislature hereby commend Reba McEntire for her generous and longstanding support of Texoma Medical Center and extend best wishes to Ms. McEntire and the attendees and organizers of the "Fly Away with Reba" benefit concert for a successful and enjoyable event; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be 21 prepared for Ms. McEntire as an expression of high regard by the 22 Texas House of Representatives.

Phillips

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1982 was adopted by the House on May 11, 2007, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House