

By: Estes

S.C.R. No. 21

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Small businesses, whether product manufacturers or
2 service providers, contribute significantly to the nation's
3 economy, generating half of the United States' gross domestic
4 product, employing half of the nation's workforce, and creating
5 most of the net new jobs in our country; small businesses also boost
6 the economy through patents that introduce new technologies and
7 innovations that develop new markets; and

8 WHEREAS, The engine of Texas' economic performance is largely
9 driven by its small businesses; in 2003 the number of small
10 businesses in Texas was estimated to be more than 1.7 million,
11 representing 98.6 percent of the employing firms in Texas;
12 moreover, this sector of business continues to grow in size and in
13 its significance to the Texas economy; and

14 WHEREAS, The Capitol grounds display statues, memorials, and
15 commemorations of people, events, and ideals that express the
16 unique characteristics that define our state; Chapter 443,
17 Government Code, authorizes the State Preservation Board to
18 preserve, maintain, and restore the Capitol grounds and requires
19 proposals to construct a monument or other improvement to the
20 Capitol Complex to be submitted to the board for review; and

21 WHEREAS, Reminiscent of the frontier settlers of the Lone
22 Star State, the entrepreneurs who start and own small businesses
23 undertake the risk of such an enterprise with courage and
24 determination; this spirit, with its significant impact on the

1 well-being of our state, is truly worthy of public tribute; and

2 WHEREAS, Members of the Texas Legislature find a
3 commemorative monument in honor of the contributions made by small
4 businesses in Texas to be a worthy addition to the Capitol grounds;
5 now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the 80th Legislature of the State of Texas
7 hereby authorize the State Preservation Board, subject to state law
8 and rules of the board, to approve and permit the construction of a
9 new monument on the Capitol grounds honoring the contributions that
10 small businesses have made to the State of Texas; and, be it further

11 RESOLVED, That no public funds be used for the design and
12 construction of the monument and that the State of Texas not
13 facilitate fund-raising nor establish a state fund for the deposit
14 of money raised for the design and construction of the monument;
15 and, be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward an
17 official copy of this resolution to the executive director of the
18 State Preservation Board.