By: Janek S.C.R. No. 30

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Members of the Texas State Association of Parliamentarians are visiting the Capitol on May 4 and 5, 2007, in conjunction with their annual convention in Austin, and the occasion provides a fitting opportunity to honor this commendable organization; and

WHEREAS, Since 1955, the Texas State Association of Parliamentarians has served the people of Texas through the study, teaching, and dissemination of parliamentary law, while its members have served a multitude of public and private organizations in the practice of fair and expedient procedure; and

WHEREAS, Passed to the American colonies from the British House of Commons, parliamentary law was nurtured in the colonial legislature and developed in the United States Congress and state legislatures, and it remains the hallmark of integrity in American government; and

WHEREAS, In February 1876, General Henry M. Robert, a former chief of the United States Army Corps of Engineers, published Pocket Manual of Rules of Order for Deliberative Assemblies, better known as Robert's Rules of Order; interestingly, the author of the most widely used manual of parliamentary procedure also played a role in the design and construction of the Galveston Seawall and the Houston Ship Channel near the turn of the 20th century; and

24 WHEREAS, The Lone Star State is home to many notable

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parliamentarians, including the late Robert E. Johnson, Sr., who was honored for his longtime service to the Texas Legislature with the dedication of the Robert E. Johnson, Sr., State Legislative Office Building; renowned Texas and United States legislator Barbara Jordan emphasized the importance of parliamentary procedure when she stated, "If you're going to play the game

7 properly, you'd better know every rule"; and

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WHEREAS, The members of the Texas Legislature, as well as the citizens of the State of Texas, owe a debt of gratitude to the parliamentarians, secretaries, and clerks of the Texas Senate and House of Representatives, for their skillful, equitable, and efficient execution of session business is integral to ensuring the integrity and consistency of the legislative process in the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 80th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby recognize May 5, 2007, as Parliamentary Law Day at the State Capitol and extend to the members of the Texas State Association of Parliamentarians sincere best wishes for a memorable and rewarding convention in Austin.