

By: Smithee

H.C.R. No. 5

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, *TEXAS*, the musical drama presented each summer in
2 Palo Duro Canyon, is a beloved and time-honored entertainment
3 tradition that is beginning its 44th season in 2009; and

4 WHEREAS, Staged in the beautiful Pioneer Amphitheatre in a
5 natural basin of Palo Duro Canyon, *TEXAS* depicts the struggles and
6 triumphs of the settlers of the Panhandle region in the 1800s; the
7 production's compelling narrative is combined with music, dance,
8 humor, fireworks, and special effects to create a thrilling and
9 engaging celebration of the area's past; and

10 WHEREAS, More than three million people have seen *TEXAS* since
11 the production was first staged, including Lady Bird Johnson and
12 numerous Texas governors; it is recognized as one of the leading
13 outdoor dramas in the nation and draws numerous visitors from
14 across the Lone Star State and beyond; more than half of the people
15 that attend each year travel 150 miles or more to see the show, and
16 at least one international visitor has been present at each of the
17 more than 2,700 performances that have been presented over the
18 course of the past 43 years; and

19 WHEREAS, The popularity of *TEXAS* has been of great benefit to
20 the town of Canyon and the surrounding area; the show directly
21 employs 125 people each summer, and it contributes a total of \$35
22 million in economic activity, according to a study by West Texas A&M
23 University; and

24 WHEREAS, Designated as one of the official plays of the State

1 of Texas, this family-friendly extravaganza has captivated
2 audiences for more than four decades, and it stands as an enduring
3 tribute to the colorful history of the Lone Star State; now,
4 therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the 81st Legislature of the State of Texas,
6 1st Called Session, hereby honor the musical drama *TEXAS* on the
7 occasion of its 44th season and extend to all those involved with
8 this outstanding production sincere best wishes for continued
9 success.