

By: Ritter

H.R. No. 659

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Over the course of his highly successful career in
2 country music, Tracy Byrd has demonstrated an enduring interest in
3 using his celebrity to help others, and he has been especially
4 generous in his efforts to benefit charitable causes in Southeast
5 Texas; and

6 WHEREAS, A native of the Beaumont area, Mr. Byrd got his
7 start as a performer in the city's music clubs, and his undeniable
8 talent led to a recording contract in 1992; hit singles and
9 best-selling albums soon followed, but even as his stature has
10 grown large in the Nashville music industry, he has maintained
11 close ties to the Texas communities where he was raised; and

12 WHEREAS, This caring musician continually sought ways to give
13 back to his fellow Texans, and in the late 1990s, he began staging
14 the annual Tracy Byrd Homecoming Weekend in Beaumont; this popular
15 event includes golf and fishing tournaments as well as a concert,
16 and it has raised more than \$1 million to fund children's charities
17 in the area; among the projects underwritten by the proceeds was the
18 creation of a hyperbaric medicine and wound care center at
19 St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Beaumont, which has been named in honor
20 of Mr. Byrd; and

21 WHEREAS, In recent years, he has expanded the event to
22 include fellow southeast Texas singers Mark Chesnutt and Zona
23 Jones, creating a three-day fund-raiser known as the Beaumont Boys
24 Bash; in 2009, the bash will take place October 23 through 25 and

1 will benefit the Children's Miracle Network, Netcasters Youth
2 Ministries, the Garth House, the Boy Scouts, and the Southeast
3 Texas Humane Society; and

4 WHEREAS, Tracy Byrd has distinguished himself as a performer
5 and recording artist of great ability who is also dedicated to
6 assisting those in need, and his admirable work is greatly
7 appreciated by the residents of the Golden Triangle; now,
8 therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
10 Legislature hereby honor Tracy Byrd for his ongoing charitable work
11 in Southeast Texas and extend to him sincere best wishes for success
12 in all of his endeavors; and, be it further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
14 prepared for Mr. Byrd as an expression of high regard by the Texas
15 House of Representatives.