

By: Rodriguez

H.R. No. 769

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Ruben G. Hernandez has greatly enriched the proud  
2 musical tradition of Austin and the State of Texas through his  
3 leadership of the Nash Hernandez Orchestra, which has been pleasing  
4 audiences for 60 years; and

5           WHEREAS, The musical ensemble was founded by Nash Hernandez,  
6 Sr., in the spring of 1949, and from the beginning, it specialized  
7 in performing an infectious mix of big-band swing, jazz, and Latin  
8 musical styles; through the decades, the band has drawn fans of all  
9 ages, races, and backgrounds, including everyone from college  
10 students to dance enthusiasts to Texas political leaders; and

11           WHEREAS, Nash Hernandez passed away in June 1994 at the age of  
12 72, but before he died, he asked his son, Ruben, to carry on his  
13 musical legacy by taking over the orchestra; Ruben agreed, and in  
14 the 15 years since, he has maintained the group's popularity by  
15 performing regularly at venues, special events, and weddings around  
16 the state; and

17           WHEREAS, Born on July 11, 1959, Ruben Hernandez is actually  
18 10 years younger than the band he directs, but he has a long musical  
19 history of his own; he learned to play the drums at the age of four  
20 with the help of his brother, Dave, and began performing with the  
21 orchestra when he was just 11 years old; drawing inspiration from  
22 renowned drummers such as Buddy Rich and Tito Puente, he devoted  
23 himself to music and earned a degree in theory and composition from  
24 The University of Texas at Austin in 1981; and

1           WHEREAS, Since becoming leader of the orchestra, Mr.  
2 Hernandez has maintained his father's practice of performing for  
3 charitable events and at fund-raisers for deserving causes, and the  
4 band regularly plays special concerts at senior citizens  
5 facilities; for these admirable efforts, and for keeping alive a  
6 historic Texas ensemble and its timeless music, Ruben Hernandez and  
7 his fellow musicians are indeed deserving of recognition; now,  
8 therefore, be it

9           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
10 Legislature hereby honor Ruben G. Hernandez for perpetuating the  
11 musical legacy of the Nash Hernandez Orchestra and extend best  
12 wishes to the members of the band on the event of the ensemble's  
13 60th anniversary; and, be it further

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