

By: Hilderbran

H.R. No. 2084

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The economy of Texas benefits greatly from the  
2 efforts of homegrown entrepreneurs, and in that tradition, the  
3 jewelry firm of James Avery Craftsman, Inc., of Kerrville opened  
4 its 50th retail location in Georgetown on April 10, 2009; and

5           WHEREAS, James Avery founded the company in 1954 in his  
6 mother-in-law's garage in the Texas Hill Country, handcrafting his  
7 own jewelry designs; within three years, he had hired his first  
8 employee and distributed his first catalog of religious jewelry;  
9 and

10           WHEREAS, In 1965, the company was incorporated as James Avery  
11 Craftsman, Inc., and in 1967 it moved to a 40-acre corporate  
12 headquarters two blocks from the original garage in Kerrville; and

13           WHEREAS, Today, the company operates 50 stores in Texas,  
14 Colorado, Georgia, Louisiana, and Oklahoma, employing 1,400  
15 designers, craftsmen, sales associates, and support personnel; 55  
16 years after his first handmade pieces, Mr. Avery continues to  
17 design new jewelry while his son, Chris Avery, runs the company; and

18           WHEREAS, For more than half a century, James Avery Craftsman,  
19 Inc., has contributed to the prosperity of Texas, and the opening of  
20 the new store in Georgetown is indeed cause for celebration; now,  
21 therefore, be it

22           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
23 Legislature hereby congratulate James Avery Craftsman, Inc., on the  
24 opening of its 50th retail store and extend to the company's

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1 management and staff sincere best wishes for continued success and  
2 happiness; and, be it further

3         RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
4 prepared for the company as an expression of high regard by the  
5 Texas House of Representatives.