

By: Bolton

H.R. No. 2405

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Lone Star State lost a beloved member of its
2 musical community on May 6, 2009, with the passing of Randall Locke
3 of Briarcliff; and

4 WHEREAS, Better known as "Poodie," Mr. Locke spent nearly
5 3-1/2 decades working for Willie Nelson, becoming the singer's
6 stage manager and trusted assistant and playing an essential role
7 in overseeing the almost-continuous concert tours by Willie Nelson
8 and Family; Mr. Locke was also an entrepreneur, operating Poodie's
9 Hilltop Bar and Grill in Spicewood, which became a well-known live
10 music venue that boosted the careers of many young performers and
11 has hosted numerous performances by Willie and other music legends;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, A native of Waco, Poodie Locke was the son of Gloria
14 Donna Main and James Houston Locke; according to his mother, he was
15 voted Waco's most beautiful baby when he was just a few months old,
16 and he got his nickname from the way his older sister pronounced the
17 word "pretty"; he graduated from University High School in Waco and
18 went on to study at North Texas State University, and by the 1970s,
19 he was working as a member of the road crew for country star B. W.
20 Stevenson; in 1975, Mr. Locke crossed paths with Willie Nelson,
21 whom he had first met years earlier; offered a job as one of
22 Willie's roadies, Mr. Locke agreed, and so began his life's work;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Locke found his niche in his role as stage

1 manager, overseeing the setup of the musicians' instruments and the
2 countless other logistics involved with keeping a band on schedule
3 for hundreds of days each year; focused, organized, and hardworking
4 on the one hand, Mr. Locke also possessed a calm demeanor that
5 contributed greatly to the band's success and comfort on the road;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, When not taking care of business, he could often be
8 found playing golf, particularly on the course at the Briarcliff
9 Golf Club; Mr. Locke had a colorful and exuberant personality that
10 made him countless friends among the famous and the not-so-famous
11 alike, and his warmth and kindness will be greatly missed by all who
12 had the good fortune to know this larger-than-life Texan; now,
13 therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
15 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Randall "Poodie"
16 Locke and extend deepest condolences to the members of his family:
17 to his mother, Gloria Locke; to the love of his life, Shaye Groves;
18 to his sister, Cindi Lou Locke; to his niece, Ashley Vincent, and
19 her husband, James; to his nephew, Dillon Locke-Boles, and his life
20 partner, Dial Boles; to his great-niece, Hanna Vincent; to Willie
21 Nelson and the other members of his extended family; and to his many
22 friends; and, be it further

23 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
24 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
25 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Poodie
26 Locke.