

By: Hopson

H.R. No. 2474

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Susan Weaver has retired as director of the Depot  
2 Museum in Henderson, and it is indeed fitting to recognize her for  
3 her three decades of distinguished service at this noteworthy  
4 institution; and

5 WHEREAS, In 1979, Ms. Weaver began volunteering at the Depot  
6 Museum, which consisted of one building on an acre of land; as  
7 attendance grew, the museum's limited hours were expanded, and  
8 within five years, she was working on a full-time basis; she led the  
9 institution through decades of sustained growth, and with the  
10 assistance of the Rusk County Historical Commission and committed  
11 citizens, it now occupies 11 structures on five acres; through her  
12 expertise in grant writing, the museum obtained significant awards  
13 from such organizations as the Meadows Foundation and Texas  
14 Folklife Resources; and

15 WHEREAS, Ms. Weaver guided the evolution of the annual quilt  
16 show into the Folkart Preservation Project, which received a  
17 prestigious commendation from the American Association for State  
18 and Local History; the program features demonstrations and  
19 instruction from masters of weaving, spinning, knife making,  
20 blacksmithing, and other crafts; popular events supported by the  
21 museum include Heritage Folkart Day, a two-day educational  
22 experience that has introduced thousands of schoolchildren to their  
23 county's history, and the Heritage Syrup Festival, which draws some  
24 20,000 people annually; the museum regularly offers quilting bees

1 and workshops in such crafts as wood carving; and

2 WHEREAS, A tireless supporter of Henderson, Ms. Weaver has  
3 promoted tourism by giving generously of her time and talents to the  
4 Henderson Candlelight Tour and the Rusk County Home Tour; in 2000,  
5 Ms. Weaver cofounded the East Texas Wildflower Trails, a driving  
6 tour that takes visitors to historic spots as they enjoy viewing the  
7 coreopsis in bloom; moreover, she is a member of the Main Street  
8 Landmark Committee and the Main Street Advisory Board, and served  
9 as secretary and chair of the latter's organization committee; she  
10 also served as chair of the chamber of commerce tourism committee,  
11 as an officer of the Howard Dickinson House, and on the board of the  
12 Texas Forest Trail; and

13 WHEREAS, Through her vision and dedication, Susan Weaver has  
14 helped preserve the history and culture of Rusk County and enhance  
15 knowledge of folk arts, giving area residents increased pride in  
16 their East Texas heritage; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
18 Legislature hereby congratulate Susan Weaver on her retirement as  
19 director of the Depot Museum in Henderson and extend to her best  
20 wishes for the future; and, be it further

21 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
22 prepared for Ms. Weaver as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
23 House of Representatives.