

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 371

WHEREAS, A state replete with diverse landscapes, iconic American legends, and talented residents, Texas has long been a favorite location for motion picture and television productions, and that rich and ongoing tradition is being celebrated on Texas Moving Image Industry Day at the State Capitol on March 4, 2009; and

WHEREAS, More than 1,600 films and television programs have been made in Texas since 1910; the first movie ever to win the Academy Award for Best Picture, the silent World War I epic *Wings*, was shot in and around San Antonio; and

WHEREAS, Audiences all over the world have discovered the Lone Star State through films and television programs made here; *Giant*, filmed near Marfa, tells the sprawling story of cattle and oil in West Texas; no fewer than nine films about the siege of the Alamo have been made in Texas, including John Wayne's 1960 epic, *The Alamo*; the film and television series *Friday Night Lights* tells the distinctively Texan story of high school football, and 10 years after its release, *Hope Floats* continues to draw tourists to its locations in Smithville and Central Texas; week after week since 1976, *Austin City Limits*, the longest-running television concert series, is still bringing the best of popular music to the nation with a Texas flair; and

WHEREAS, Great filmmakers from all over the world have journeyed to Texas to make their films; Steven Spielberg shot his first feature, *The Sugarland Express*, here, Sam Peckinpah filmed his classic thriller *The Getaway* in San Marcos and El Paso, Clint Eastwood made *A Perfect World* and *Space Cowboys* in Texas, and the German director Wim Wenders shot his art house masterpiece *Paris, Texas* in locations all over the state; and

WHEREAS, The Lone Star State's own writers and directors have produced many great projects here, including Robert Benton (*Bonnie and Clyde*, *Places in the Heart*), Horton Foote (*Tender Mercies*, *The Trip to Bountiful*), William Witliff (*Lonesome Dove*, *Honeysuckle Rose*, *Raggedy Man*), Wes Anderson (*Bottle Rocket*, *Rushmore*), Richard Linklater (*Slacker*, *Dazed and Confused*, *The Newton Boys*), Tim McCanlies (*Secondhand Lions*), Robert Rodriguez (*Spy Kids*, *Sin City*), and John Lee Hancock (*The Alamo*, *The Rookie*); and

WHEREAS, Texas has hosted a staggering variety of productions, from independent films like *Waiting for Guffman* (shot in Lockhart) to classic westerns like *Lonesome Dove* (shot near Del Rio), as well as war films like *Courage Under Fire* (shot in El Paso), over-the-top family adventure comedies like the three *Spy Kids* films (shot in Austin), romantic comedies like *Miss Congeniality* (shot in San Antonio), and classic horror films like *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre* (shot in Austin); the state has also been the location for such Academy Award-winning features as *No Country for Old Men* and *There Will Be Blood* (both shot in Marfa), *Boys Don't Cry* (shot in Greenville), *Places in the Heart* (shot in Waxahachie), and *Terms of Endearment* (shot in Houston); and

WHEREAS, The state is known for its highly skilled film technicians, whose expertise is so well-regarded that most films shot in Texas hire primarily local crews; the state also boasts a strong base of acting talent, and specialized film vendors and services have been a strong part of the state's economy for more than two decades; and

WHEREAS, With more than 90 companies, Texas is the third-largest center for the development of video games, whose highly skilled workers have created such popular titles as *Quake* from Id Software, *Ultima Online*, a groundbreaking multiplayer game from Origin Systems, and *Age of Empires* from Ensemble Studios, as well as military simulation training games for the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, Over the past decade, the moving image industry, including film, television, video, commercials, animation, and interactive video games, has spent more than \$2.2 billion and created over 38,000 jobs in Texas, and the contributions of this dynamic industry to Texas, and of Texans to this industry, are truly worthy of recognition; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 81st Legislature, hereby recognize March 4, 2009, as Texas Moving Image Industry Day at the State Capitol and commend the industry's many talented individuals for their creativity, hard work, and determination.

Carona, Deuell

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 4, 2009.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate

Member, Texas Senate