

By: Dutton

H.C.R. No. 12

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Country-pop superstar Kenny Rogers is visiting the
2 State Capitol, and this occasion presents an ideal opportunity to
3 recognize one of the Lone Star State's most famous sons; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Houston, Mr. Rogers took up guitar and
5 fiddle and formed a rockabilly band called the Scholars as a high
6 school student; the local success of two singles earned the group a
7 spot on *American Bandstand*; although he briefly attended The
8 University of Texas at Austin, Mr. Rogers soon found work as a
9 bassist in a jazz combo, and in 1960, he played bass on the Mickey
10 Gilley single "Is It Wrong"; and

11 WHEREAS, This talented Texan joined the New Christy Minstrels
12 in 1966, and a year later he and three other members left to form the
13 First Edition; in 1968, their pop-psychedelic song "Just Dropped In
14 (To See What Condition My Condition Was In)" became a top five hit,
15 and they changed their name to Kenny Rogers & the First Edition; the
16 group went on to record such million-sellers as "Ruby, Don't Take
17 Your Love to Town" and "Reuben James"; and

18 WHEREAS, After launching a solo career, Mr. Rogers scored a
19 mammoth hit with "Lucille"; the No. 1 country single crossed over to
20 the pop charts and reached No. 5, beginning a phenomenal string of
21 country and pop smashes that included "She Believes in Me," "You
22 Decorated My Life," and "Coward of the County"; he teamed with
23 Dottie West for a series of top ten duets, among them "Every Time
24 Two Fools Collide" and "What Are We Doin' in Love"; and

1 WHEREAS, The 1980s brought even greater triumphs, as Mr.
2 Rogers spent six weeks at the top of the pop charts with "Lady" and
3 recorded such chart-topping duets as "We've Got Tonight," with
4 Sheena Easton, "Don't Fall in Love with a Dreamer," with Kim Carnes,
5 and "Islands in the Stream," with Dolly Parton; he starred in five
6 movies based on his perennial favorite "The Gambler" and in a number
7 of other movies and television productions; and

8 WHEREAS, In more recent years, Mr. Rogers has returned to the
9 country airwaves with such songs as "The Greatest" and "Buy Me a
10 Rose," and he continues to delight his legions of fans with
11 concerts, television appearances, and albums; his most recent
12 release, *The Love of God*, is a collection of inspirational songs; in
13 addition, he has established himself as a photographer, author, and
14 off-Broadway musical theater star, and he has given generously of
15 his time, talents, and resources to such charities as the Kenny
16 Rogers Children's Center; and

17 WHEREAS, Over the course of a career spanning more than half a
18 century, Kenny Rogers has sold more than 120 million records
19 worldwide, and he remains one of America's most enduringly popular
20 artists and a source of pride to his fellow Texans; now, therefore,
21 be it

22 RESOLVED, That the 82nd Legislature of the State of Texas
23 hereby honor Kenny Rogers for his remarkable achievements and
24 extend to him sincere best wishes for continued success and
25 happiness; and, be it further

26 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
27 prepared for Mr. Rogers as an expression of high regard by the Texas

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1 House of Representatives and Senate.