

By: Raymond

H.C.R. No. 156

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, In November 1963, many Texans were anticipating a
2 two-day visit to their state by President John F. Kennedy; and

3 WHEREAS, The president's itinerary included stops in Dallas,
4 San Antonio, Houston, Fort Worth, and the capital of the Lone Star
5 State, where he was to appear at the Municipal Auditorium on
6 November 22; the speech he planned to deliver in Austin that evening
7 included memories of his 1960 campaign tour of Texas with then vice
8 presidential candidate Lyndon B. Johnson and concluded with a call
9 for unity and renewed confidence in American ideals; and

10 WHEREAS, The assassination of President Kennedy in Dallas on
11 November 22, 1963, forever changed the United States of America and
12 its people; in the aftermath of that tragedy, the planned visit to
13 Austin became a somber footnote in the annals of Texas and the
14 United States; and

15 WHEREAS, The placement of a Texas Historical Marker near the
16 auditorium would serve to remind future generations of President
17 Kennedy's leadership and his special interest in the citizens of
18 the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the 82nd Legislature of the State of Texas
20 hereby direct the Texas Historical Commission to work with the City
21 of Austin to develop a unique design for an official Texas
22 Historical Marker in honor of President Kennedy, to be paid for
23 entirely with funds raised privately for this purpose, for
24 placement on or near the site of the Austin Municipal Auditorium;

1 and, be it further

2 RESOLVED, That such marker include, among other appropriate
3 notations, these words from President Kennedy's intended remarks:

4 For our country is moving and it must not stop. It
5 cannot stop. For this is a time for courage and a time
6 for challenge. Neither conformity nor complacency
7 will do. Neither the fanatics nor the faint-hearted
8 are needed. And our duty as a party is not to our party
9 alone, but to the Nation, and, indeed, to all mankind.
10 Our duty is not merely the preservation of political
11 power but the preservation of peace and freedom.

12 So let us not be petty when our cause is so great. Let
13 us not quarrel amongst ourselves when our Nation's
14 future is at stake. Let us stand together with renewed
15 confidence in our cause--united in our heritage of the
16 past and hopes for the future--and determined that
17 this land we love shall lead all mankind into new
18 frontiers of peace and abundance.

19 and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward an
21 official copy of this resolution to the chair of the Texas
22 Historical Commission.