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H.R. No. 18

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The year 2010 marked the 20th anniversary of the
2 death of Stevie Ray Vaughan, and the passage of that milestone
3 provides a fitting opportunity to reflect on the life and music of
4 this Texas guitar legend; and

5 WHEREAS, In the early morning hours of August 27, 1990, Mr.
6 Vaughan, then just 35 years of age, was killed in a helicopter crash
7 following a concert in Wisconsin; while his tragic death robbed the
8 world of a tremendous talent, it could not diminish the many
9 achievements this gifted musician realized during his short but
10 brilliant career; and

11 WHEREAS, The pride of Oak Cliff, he was born in that Dallas
12 community in 1954 and began playing in area bands while still a
13 student in junior high school; at age 17, he headed for Austin,
14 developing his explosive, blues-based style in the city's music
15 clubs; Stevie Ray's years of hard work began to pay off after he
16 began performing with his legendary backup group, Double Trouble,
17 in the early 1980s; he got his first widespread exposure when he
18 played guitar on the David Bowie album *Let 's Dance*, and he released
19 his own debut, *Texas Flood*, in 1983 to rave reviews; and

20 WHEREAS, Over the next seven years, Stevie Ray Vaughan
21 claimed his spot as one of the most influential rock and blues
22 guitarists of all time, with his smoldering fret work inspiring
23 everyone from music superstars to kids trying to learn their first
24 chords; all five albums he released during his lifetime became

1 million sellers, and his artistry was recognized with five Grammy
2 Awards, two of which were bestowed after his death; he also received
3 numerous other honors, and he and Double Trouble sold out concert
4 halls around the globe; and

5 WHEREAS, In addition to his professional success, this
6 revered musician was able to overcome his addiction to drugs and
7 alcohol in the mid-1980s, and in the years that followed, he lent a
8 helping hand to other musicians who struggled with substance abuse;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Stevie Ray Vaughan's popularity has endured in the
11 decades since his passing, with younger generations embracing his
12 masterful guitar playing and heartfelt singing; fiery, evocative,
13 and full of Texas soul, his music has earned a special place in the
14 annals of American popular culture and is a source of pride and joy
15 for countless residents of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be
16 it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
18 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the legacy of Stevie Ray Vaughan
19 following the 20th anniversary of his death and honor his
20 contributions to our state's rich musical heritage.