

By: Kleinschmidt

H.R. No. 127

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A Central Texas entertainment institution, the
2 Round Top Brass Band is celebrating its 40th anniversary in 2011;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Founded by Ronnie Sacks and George Koudelka in 1970,
5 the Round Top Brass Band carries on the rich tradition of German and
6 Bohemian folk music that is such an essential part of the regional
7 culture; beginning with just six members, several of whom were
8 students at Southwest Texas State University, the group later
9 attracted seasoned professionals and today draws on a roster of
10 nearly 30 musicians; and

11 WHEREAS, Through the decades, the band has thrived under the
12 leadership of Mr. Sacks, who plays trumpet, and Mr. Koudelka, who
13 plays drums; both men take their place on the bandstand for the
14 group's performances, which have included appearances at area
15 events such as the Round Top Fourth of July celebration, Wursthfest
16 in New Braunfels, and the Czech Festival in Rosenberg, as well as a
17 performance by invitation at the 750th anniversary of Erndtebruck,
18 Germany; and

19 WHEREAS, The ensemble often plays arrangements created by Mr.
20 Sacks, who has developed modern versions of the old-world folk
21 music that was popular in Texas over a century ago; his work is
22 carrying on a family tradition, as his great-grandfather, William
23 Sachs, was the drummer for the well-known Etzel Band that performed
24 in the Round Top area at the turn of the 20th century; the Round Top

1 Brass Band is also known to explore other types of music, such as
2 American marches and Christmas pieces; and

3 WHEREAS, The members of this notable group have demonstrated
4 great skill and dedication and are appreciated not only for the
5 entertainment they provide but also for keeping alive one of the
6 venerable musical traditions of the Lone Star State; now,
7 therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
9 Legislature hereby congratulate the Round Top Brass Band on four
10 decades of music making and extend to the band's members sincere
11 best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

12 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
13 prepared for the band as an expression of high regard by the Texas
14 House of Representatives.