

By: Gallego

H.R. No. 488

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The 25th annual Trappings of Texas Custom Cowboy
2 Gear and Western Art Exhibit and Sale is taking place at the Museum
3 of the Big Bend at Sul Ross State University in Alpine on February
4 25 and 26, 2011, and this occasion provides a welcome opportunity to
5 recognize the creator and longtime curator of the event, Gary
6 Dunshee; and

7 WHEREAS, After attending a cowboy poetry reading in Elko,
8 Nevada, in 1985, Gary Dunshee and Sul Ross faculty member Dr.
9 Barbara Nelson decided to start a similar tradition in Alpine;
10 while Dr. Nelson organized the first Texas Cowboy Poetry Gathering,
11 Mr. Dunshee, co-owner of Big Bend Saddlery, collected Western gear
12 to display as part of the event, and his efforts gave birth to the
13 Trappings of Texas exhibit; he went on to serve as curator of the
14 annual show for 16 years; and

15 WHEREAS, Trappings of Texas is the sole fund-raiser held at
16 the Museum of the Big Bend, and a portion of the proceeds goes to
17 support exhibits and educational programs throughout the year; the
18 2011 show is once again taking place in conjunction with the Texas
19 Cowboy Poetry Gathering and features more than 120 works by over 60
20 artists; and

21 WHEREAS, Mr. Dunshee has owned Big Bend Saddlery since 1977
22 and has built award-winning saddles for the Professional Rodeo
23 Cowboys Association and done custom work for many celebrities; he
24 has served as a sponsor of the Working Ranch Cowboys Association and

1 participated in that group's World Championship Ranch Rodeo as well
2 as the Western Heritage Classic Ranch Rodeo, the Texas Ranch
3 Roundup, and the Tejas Vaquero Trail Ride; in addition, he has
4 demonstrated his saddle-making skills nationwide, including at the
5 Smithsonian Institution; and

6 WHEREAS, This notable Texan is a former president of the
7 Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences and Rodeo Exes
8 Association at Sul Ross State University, and he is a financial
9 contributor to the school and an avid recruiter for the
10 agricultural program; and

11 WHEREAS, In all of his endeavors, Mr. Dunshee enjoys the love
12 and support of his wife, Hillary, and their two children, Wade and
13 Mattie; and

14 WHEREAS, Gary Dunshee is a skilled artist who has worked to
15 benefit his community and to preserve and promote the traditional
16 crafts of the American West, and he may indeed take pride in his
17 many achievements; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
19 Legislature hereby honor Gary Dunshee, founder of the Trappings of
20 Texas Custom Cowboy Gear and Western Art Exhibit and Sale, on the
21 occasion of the event's 25th anniversary; and, be it further

22 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
23 prepared for Mr. Dunshee as an expression of high regard by the
24 Texas House of Representatives.