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H.R. No. 747

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A state that is home to iconic American legends,
2 talented residents, diverse settings, and abundant resources for
3 all aspects of filmmaking, Texas has long been a favorite location
4 for motion picture and television productions, and that rich and
5 ongoing tradition is being celebrated on Texas Moving Image
6 Industry Day at the State Capitol on March 9, 2011; and

7 WHEREAS, More than 1,800 films and television programs have
8 been made in Texas since 1910; the first movie ever to win the
9 Academy Award for Best Picture, the 1927 World War I epic *Wings*, was
10 shot in and around San Antonio; and

11 WHEREAS, Audiences all over the world have discovered the
12 Lone Star State through films and television programs made here;
13 *Giant*, filmed near Marfa, tells the sprawling story of cattle and
14 oil in West Texas; John Wayne's 1960 epic *The Alamo* brought that
15 essential Texas story to worldwide audiences; the film and
16 television series *Friday Night Lights* revolve around the
17 distinctively Texan phenomenon of high school football, and 13
18 years after its release, *Hope Floats* continues to draw tourists to
19 its Smithville locations; *Austin City Limits*, aired on PBS since
20 1976, is the only television show to receive a National Medal of
21 Arts award; no fewer than nine Texas-made films and television
22 programs, including *Terms of Endearment* and *The Last Picture Show*,
23 have been based on the works of legendary Texas writer Larry
24 McMurtry; and

1 WHEREAS, Great storytellers from across the nation have
2 employed Texas locations, actors, and technicians to make their
3 films; Steven Spielberg shot his first feature, *The Sugarland*
4 *Express*, here, Sam Peckinpah filmed his classic thriller *The*
5 *Getaway* in San Marcos and El Paso, Clint Eastwood made *A Perfect*
6 *World* in Huntsville and Austin, and Joel and Ethan Coen utilized
7 various locations around Texas in *Blood Simple* and *True Grit*; and

8 WHEREAS, The state's own writers and directors have produced
9 many great projects here, including Robert Benton (*Bonnie and*
10 *Clyde*, *Nadine*), Horton Foote (*Tender Mercies*, *The Trip to*
11 *Bountiful*), Bill Wittliff (*Raggedy Man*, *Honeysuckle Rose*), Wes
12 Anderson (*Rushmore*), Richard Linklater (*Slacker*, *Dazed and*
13 *Confused*), Tim McCanlies (*Dancer*, *Texas Pop. 81*, *Secondhand Lions*),
14 Robert Rodriguez (*From Dusk Till Dawn*), and John Lee Hancock (*The*
15 *Alamo*, *The Rookie*); and

16 WHEREAS, Texas has hosted a tremendous variety of
17 productions, from independent films like *Bottle Rocket* (shot in
18 Dallas) to classic westerns like *Lonesome Dove* (shot near Del Rio),
19 as well as war dramas like *Courage Under Fire* (shot in El Paso),
20 family adventures like the four *Spy Kids* films (shot in Austin), and
21 romantic comedies like *Miss Congeniality* (shot in San Antonio) and
22 *Michael* (shot in Austin and La Grange); the state has also been the
23 location for such Academy Award-winning features as *No Country for*
24 *Old Men* and *There Will Be Blood* (both shot in Marfa), *Boys Don't Cry*
25 (shot in Greenville), *Places in the Heart* (shot in Waxahachie), and
26 *Hud* (shot in Claude); and

27 WHEREAS, The state is known for its highly skilled film

1 technicians, whose expertise is so well-regarded that most films
2 shot in Texas hire primarily local crews; the state also boasts a
3 strong base of acting talent, and specialized film vendors and
4 services have been a strong part of the state's economy for more
5 than two decades; and

6 WHEREAS, With over 130 companies, Texas is the nation's
7 second largest center for the development of video games, and their
8 products include such popular titles as *Epic Mickey* from Disney
9 Junction Point Studios, *Ultima Online*, a groundbreaking
10 multiplayer game from Origin Systems, and *Words With Friends* from
11 McKinney-based The Zynga With Friends Studio, as well as military
12 simulation training games for the U.S. Army; and

13 WHEREAS, Over the past decade, the moving image industry,
14 including film, television, videos, commercials, animation, and
15 video games, has spent more than \$2.5 billion and is estimated to
16 have created nearly 56,000 jobs in Texas, and the contributions of
17 this dynamic industry to Texas, and of Texans to the industry, are
18 truly worthy of recognition; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
20 Legislature hereby recognize March 9, 2011, as Texas Moving Image
21 Industry Day at the State Capitol and commend the many talented and
22 creative individuals involved in this exciting field.