

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The late Sammie Jean Estes has been nominated for  
2 induction into the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame; and

3           WHEREAS, Founded in 1975, the National Cowgirl Museum and  
4 Hall of Fame in Fort Worth is dedicated to honoring and documenting  
5 the lives of women who exemplify the spirit of the American West;  
6 with a mission to preserve the history and impact of western women  
7 living from the mid-1800s to the present, the Hall of Fame includes  
8 nearly 200 artists, writers, entertainers, competitive performers,  
9 ranchers, and others who have contributed to this distinctive  
10 region; and

11           WHEREAS, Posthumously nominated to join this esteemed group,  
12 "Sweet" Estes discovered a lifelong passion for horses at the age of  
13 11, when she purchased her first pony for two dollars and began  
14 charging neighborhood children a nickel to ride to the corner and a  
15 dime to ride around the block; and

16           WHEREAS, Ms. Estes earned enough money to buy more horses,  
17 and by 1941, she and her family had a stable of 15; the income from  
18 her riding business paid for her college education as well as her  
19 sister's; while a student at the University of North Texas in  
20 Denton, Ms. Estes sponsored the Los Caballeros Riding Club and  
21 taught her fellow students riding and horsemanship, as well as  
22 classes on the anatomy and care of a horse; in addition to  
23 instructing courses and keeping up with her own studies, she bred  
24 many registered horses, and her "Double Dollar" brand could be

1 found on many fine quarter horses; and

2 WHEREAS, Ms. Estes earned both her bachelor's and her  
3 master's degrees in physical education at UNT; for nearly five  
4 decades, she taught horseback riding, backpacking, and wilderness  
5 camping to students at UNT and at Texas Woman's University; and

6 WHEREAS, She also leased her horses for many years to summer  
7 camps across Texas and Colorado and beyond, serving many of them as  
8 a riding instructor; along the way, this inspiring woman managed to  
9 overcome tuberculosis and to acquire her dream home, a 30-acre  
10 property called Lone Chimney, in Colorado; it was there that she  
11 passed away on August 16, 1989; and

12 WHEREAS, Sweet Estes shared her love of horses with  
13 generations of young people; she lived an extraordinary life that  
14 embodied the independence, character, and indomitable spirit of the  
15 American cowgirl, and she is most deserving of this special honor;  
16 now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
18 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Sweet Estes on the  
19 occasion of her posthumous nomination to the National Cowgirl  
20 Museum and Hall of Fame.

Crownover

H.R. No. 968

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 968 was adopted by the House on April 7, 2011, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House