

By: Raymond

H.R. No. 1593

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The legendary singer and songwriter Paul McCartney  
2 has been a working musician since 1957, and since 1963, he has been  
3 one of the most famous musicians in the world, first as a member of  
4 the Beatles and then as a successful solo artist; and

5           WHEREAS, Born in Liverpool, England, in 1942, James Paul  
6 McCartney was the son of a midwife and a trumpet player; when he was  
7 12, he met a schoolmate named George Harrison on a bus, and the two  
8 became friends; then, in one of the most fateful encounters in the  
9 history of pop culture, he met John Lennon at a church fete in 1957,  
10 and Mr. Lennon invited Mr. McCartney to join his skiffle group, the  
11 Quarrymen; Mr. Harrison joined them in 1958, and by 1960, the group  
12 had evolved into the Beatles; with the later addition of drummer  
13 Ringo Starr, the four lads from Liverpool became at first merely  
14 internationally famous, and then went on to become the most  
15 influential band in the history of rock and roll; and

16           WHEREAS, Half of one of the greatest songwriting partnerships  
17 in history, Mr. McCartney, sometimes working with John Lennon and  
18 sometimes on his own, wrote songs that have become the enduring  
19 soundtrack of a generation, including "I Want to Hold Your Hand,"  
20 "Eleanor Rigby," "Penny Lane," "Get Back," and "Let It Be," among  
21 many others; his work encompasses everything from raucous rockers  
22 like "Helter Skelter" to tender songs of heartbreak such as  
23 "Yesterday" to old-fashioned music hall tunes such as "When I'm  
24 Sixty-Four"; and

1           WHEREAS, Over the 10 years of the Beatles era,  
2 Mr. McCartney's skills as a songwriter, musician, and producer  
3 blossomed; the Beatles' concept album *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts*  
4 *Club Band* revolutionized pop music, and on the second side of *Abbey*  
5 *Road*, the final album the Beatles recorded, Mr. McCartney worked  
6 with producer George Martin to craft a sort of pop symphony, with  
7 one song leading into the next and building to a crescendo; and

8           WHEREAS, After the breakup of the band in 1970, Mr. McCartney  
9 went on to have perhaps the most successful solo career of all the  
10 Beatles, first with his band Wings from 1970 until 1980, and since  
11 then in an impressive series of solo albums, performing with such  
12 musical giants as Stevie Wonder, Elvis Costello, and Diana Krall;  
13 he has been a frequent guest musician on other artists' albums as  
14 well, working with performers as diverse as Peggy Lee, Michael  
15 Jackson, and Johnny Cash; and

16           WHEREAS, This dynamic artist has since branched out into  
17 other musical realms, writing and singing a hit theme song for a  
18 James Bond movie, crafting the music for his own film, and even  
19 composing a number of classical works, such as the oratorio *Ecce Cor*  
20 *Meum* (Behold My Heart); during his incomparable career as a  
21 performer, he has appeared in countless charity concerts, he has  
22 sung "Back in the USSR" in Red Square, and he closed the opening  
23 ceremonies of the 2012 London Olympics with "Hey Jude"; in 1997 he  
24 was knighted by Queen Elizabeth, and he has received the Gershwin  
25 Prize for songwriting along with the Legion d'Honneur from the  
26 president of France; and

27           WHEREAS, The wonderful paradox of this iconic pop star is

1 that he can command the devotion of multitudes and yet sound as if  
2 he is addressing each listener in his or her most private moments,  
3 and throughout his extraordinary career, from his earliest days as  
4 the "cute Beatle" to his current role as the preeminent elder  
5 statesman of rock and roll, no one has mastered that unlikely  
6 combination of the epic and the intimate as magnificently as Paul  
7 McCartney; now, therefore, be it

8         RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
9 Legislature hereby commemorate the extraordinary life and career of  
10 Paul McCartney and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued  
11 success and happiness; and, be it further

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