

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, There is perhaps no fonder memory for Texans of all
2 generations than the experience of watching a film in a small town
3 theater, and the Select Theater in Mineola has been providing
4 audiences with fine motion picture entertainment for 93 years,
5 making it the longest continuously running movie theater in the
6 State of Texas; and

7 WHEREAS, The theater was opened in 1920 by a local woman,
8 Mattie Hooks, who had a passionate interest in film; as the only
9 place in Mineola County to see movies, it soon became a social hub
10 as well as an entertainment venue; after Mrs. Hooks died in 1953, it
11 was taken over by her son, Robert Hooks, Jr., and when he passed
12 away in 1961, two longtime employees, James Dear and Truman Thomas,
13 took over the business; since 1986, the theater has been run by the
14 Lake Country Playhouse; and

15 WHEREAS, Over the decades, countless people have delighted in
16 watching movies at the Select, including actress Sissy Spacek, who
17 grew up in nearby Quitman, and Mineola natives such as actor Noble
18 Willingham of *Walker, Texas Ranger* and former San Francisco mayor
19 Willie Brown; and

20 WHEREAS, Today, the theater screens films every weekend, and
21 five times a year it is the venue for live performances of the Lake
22 Country Playhouse, as well as four performances a year of the Lake
23 Country Orchestra; the theater also often stages "opries" for local
24 musicians, two of whom, Miranda Lambert and Kacey Musgraves, have

1 gone on to become stars in Nashville; and

2 WHEREAS, The history of the Select Theater and its central
3 role in the community have been captured in a new documentary, *The*
4 *Pride of Mineola*, which debuted recently at the theater and
5 features interviews with many of the Select's employees and patrons
6 over the years; and

7 WHEREAS, For nearly a century, the Select Theater has allowed
8 the people of Mineola and the surrounding communities to thrill to
9 the gleaming images of everyone from Charlie Chaplin to Leonardo
10 DiCaprio projected 40 feet high on a silver screen and to
11 participate in one of the greatest delights of small town life, the
12 shared experience of watching a movie with one's friends and
13 neighbors; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
15 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the 93-year history of the Select
16 Theater in Mineola and extend to the theater's owners, staff, and
17 patrons sincere best wishes for continued happiness; and, be it
18 further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
20 prepared for the Select Theater as an expression of high regard by
21 the Texas House of Representatives.

Hughes

H.R. No. 2384

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 2384 was adopted by the House on May 22, 2013, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House