

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, During the summer of 2013, the outdoor musical drama
2 *Texas* in Palo Duro Canyon will once again inspire and entertain
3 audiences from across the state and the nation; and

4 WHEREAS, Now in its 48th year, this annual stage spectacular
5 was the brainchild of Panhandle resident Margaret Pease Harper, a
6 professor at West Texas State College in Canyon; she conceived of
7 the idea of building an open-air amphitheater in majestic Palo Duro
8 Canyon, and she persuaded North Carolina playwright Paul Green to
9 write a large-scale pageant about the lives of Panhandle pioneers;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Pioneer Amphitheater was opened in 1962, and in the
12 summer of 1966, the first production of *Texas* was performed there;
13 the play's music, choreography, and direction were provided by
14 faculty members of West Texas State, and many of the show's original
15 cast members were students from the school; and

16 WHEREAS, Today, *Texas* is produced by the Texas Panhandle
17 Heritage Foundation, which works to preserve the history of the
18 Panhandle through theater; performed every evening Tuesday through
19 Sunday from June until mid-August, the show tells the story of
20 Calvin Armstrong, a young homesteader, and other characters include
21 a wealthy rancher, a comic gold prospector, cowboys, pioneer women,
22 and Quanah Parker, the last chief of the Comanche; and

23 WHEREAS, From its thrilling opening, as a rider on horseback
24 carries the Texas flag at top speed along the rim of the canyon, to

1 its stirring conclusion under the Western stars, the outdoor
2 musical *Texas* is truly one of the Lone Star State's cultural
3 treasures; now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
5 Legislature hereby commemorate the 2013 production of *Texas* and
6 extend to the cast and crew sincere best wishes for a successful
7 season; and, be it further

8 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
9 prepared for the cast and crew of *Texas* as an expression of high
10 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.

Price

H.R. No. 2820

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 2820 was adopted by the House on May 26, 2013, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House