

By: Thompson of Harris

H.C.R. No. 75

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Texas musicians have made enormous contributions to
2 American culture, and the state would realize significant benefits
3 through the establishment of a major museum to celebrate the
4 richness and diversity of the music created by its sons and
5 daughters; and

6 WHEREAS, Around the world, music fans recognize the Lone Star
7 State as the birthplace of such giants as Van Cliburn, Bob Wills,
8 Buddy Holly, Roy Orbison, Willie Nelson, Janis Joplin, Stevie Ray
9 Vaughan, Beyoncé, George Strait, Ornette Coleman, and the members
10 of ZZ Top; a state museum would attract a host of visitors eager to
11 learn more about these legends, and it would provide an opportunity
12 to raise awareness of the important role Texas has played in the
13 evolution of a wide array of genres, including folk, blues,
14 country, rock 'n' roll, gospel, Tejano, jazz, R&B, and hip-hop; in
15 addition, it would introduce young Texans to seminal figures in the
16 evolution of American music, among them Scott Joplin, Sippie
17 Wallace, Lightnin' Hopkins, Dale Evans, George Jones, Lefty
18 Frizzell, Lydia Mendoza, Flaco Jiménez, Selena Quintanilla Perez,
19 and many others; and

20 WHEREAS, Austin's status as the state's capital and its
21 reputation as "the Live Music Capital of the World" make the city an
22 obvious choice for the site of such a museum; moreover, Central
23 Texas has long been identified with musicology, not only through
24 the pioneering work of internationally known folklorists John and

1 Alan Lomax, but also through programs of The University of Texas at
2 Austin, Texas State University, the Texas Historical Commission,
3 and the Bullock Texas State History Museum; and

4 WHEREAS, Indeed, the Bullock Museum would be an ideal home
5 for a music museum, given its mission to engage a broad public
6 audience in the unfolding story of the history, culture, and people
7 of Texas, as well as its strong record of incorporating the arts in
8 exhibitions and in such programming as the popular Music Under the
9 Star concert series; a new music museum within the Bullock Museum
10 could develop fruitful partnerships with other relevant
11 institutions and agencies, among them the Texas Music Office, the
12 Economic Development and Tourism Division of the Governor's Office,
13 the Austin Music Commission, the Texas Music Museum, the Texas
14 Music Hall of Fame, and museums devoted to specific genres; and

15 WHEREAS, The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland drives
16 more than \$107 million in economic impact each year; in Nashville,
17 the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum has an annual economic
18 impact in excess of \$30 million, with annual attendance of more than
19 564,000; and

20 WHEREAS, Establishing a music museum within the Bullock Texas
21 State History Museum would be a natural extension of that
22 institution's mission, and it would heighten appreciation for one
23 of the most important aspects of Texas culture while drawing
24 greater attention to a growing industry and spurring further
25 economic development; now, therefore, be it

26 RESOLVED, That the 84th Legislature of the State of Texas
27 hereby encourage the State Preservation Board and the director of

1 the Bullock Texas State History Museum to establish a museum of
2 Texas music history and dedicate the third floor of the Bullock
3 Museum to this permanent and integral program; and, be it further

4 RESOLVED, That the Texas Legislature encourage the State
5 Preservation Board and the director of the Bullock Texas State
6 History Museum to explore initiatives to generate revenue for the
7 project, such as the use of the facility for catered events; and, be
8 it further

9 RESOLVED, That the Texas Legislature encourage the State
10 Preservation Board and the director of the Bullock Texas State
11 History Museum, in order to expedite the establishment of a museum
12 of Texas music history and to benefit from the Texas Music Office's
13 experience, resources, and proven record of success, to assign
14 primary responsibility for developing and operating this museum to
15 the Texas Music Office; and, be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Texas Legislature encourage the Texas
17 Music Office to consider contracting with third parties to assist
18 in the development and operation of the museum of Texas music
19 history; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official
21 copies of this resolution to the executive director of the State
22 Preservation Board and to the director of the Bullock Texas State
23 History Museum.