

By: Thompson of Harris

H.C.R. No. 75

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, and Ornette Coleman; a state museum would attract a host of
10 visitors eager to learn more about these legends, and it would
11 provide an opportunity to raise awareness of the important role
12 Texas has played in the evolution of a wide array of genres,
13 including folk, blues, country, rock 'n' roll, gospel, Tejano,
14 jazz, R&B, and hip-hop; in addition, it would introduce young
15 Texans to seminal figures in the evolution of American music, among
16 them Scott Joplin, Sippie Wallace, Lightnin' Hopkins, Dale Evans,
17 George Jones, Lefty Frizzell, Lydia Mendoza, Flaco Jiménez, Selena
18 Quintanilla Perez, and many others; and

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

1 Austin, Texas State University, the Texas Historical Commission,
2 and the Bullock Texas State History Museum; and

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

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

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

25 RESOLVED, That the 84th Legislature of the State of Texas
26 hereby encourage the State Preservation Board and the director of
27 the Bullock Texas State History Museum to establish a museum of

1 Texas music history and dedicate the third floor of the Bullock
2 Museum to this permanent and integral program; and, be it further

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

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

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

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