

By: Guillen

H.C.R. No. 78

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Over the course of nearly 200 years, people all
2 around the world have come to know the State of Texas as "the Lone
3 Star State," and it is time that this universally recognized
4 nickname receive official recognition; and

5 WHEREAS, The exact origins of this colorful phrase, and the
6 use of a single, white, five-pointed star to represent Texas, are
7 unclear; some accounts trace it to a flag carried by the James Long
8 Expedition in 1819, an early attempt to free Texas from the Spanish
9 empire, while a recent discovery of coins that were minted in what
10 is now San Antonio, showing a five-pointed star on one side and the
11 year 1817 on the other, suggest that the star was already in use as a
12 symbol for the region; and

13 WHEREAS, The first official use of the Lone Star came in 1836,
14 when the Congress of the Republic of Texas adopted a flag with a
15 five-pointed gold star on a background of deep azure, known as the
16 David G. Burnet Flag; three years later, the Texas Congress adopted
17 what is commonly known as the Lone Star Flag, showing a bright white
18 star against deep blue on the left of the flag and two horizontal
19 stripes of white and red on the flag's right; this was made the
20 official flag of the State of Texas in 1933; and

21 WHEREAS, Today, the distinctive five-pointed star and the
22 phrase "the Lone Star State" are instantly recognizable the world
23 over as the primary symbol and nickname for Texas; the term "Lone
24 Star" has been adopted by countless enterprises, from a brand of

1 beer to car dealerships, restaurants, hotels, and barbecue
2 establishments, along with nearly every other sort of business;
3 over the years, at least 10 communities in Texas have been named
4 Lone Star, including towns in Morris, Floyd, Bastrop, Delta, Polk,
5 and other counties; and

6 WHEREAS, Whatever its origins, and whatever its uses, from
7 the serious to the playful, the phrase "the Lone Star State" has
8 achieved universal currency as a sharp and memorable way to evoke
9 the unique legacy of Texas and the indomitable spirit of its people;
10 now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the 84th Legislature of the State of Texas
12 hereby designate "the Lone Star State" as the official nickname of
13 Texas.