

By: Herrero

H.R. No. 1259

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Texas State Museum of Asian Cultures and
2 Education Center in Corpus Christi celebrated its 40th anniversary
3 in 2014, and the attainment of this milestone represents a fitting
4 opportunity to celebrate this unique institution; and

5 WHEREAS, For 17 years in the 1950s and 1960s, Billie Trimble
6 Chandler of Corpus Christi lived and taught English in Japan, where
7 she collected thousands of Japanese paintings, sculptures, and
8 dolls; after her return to Corpus Christi, she founded the Billie
9 Trimble Chandler Arts Foundation in 1974 and opened the Japanese
10 Art Museum as a nonprofit corporation in a building that she
11 purchased and remodeled to exhibit items from her collection; and

12 WHEREAS, The museum moved to several different locations over
13 the years, and in 1982, it was renamed the Museum of Oriental
14 Cultures and began to exhibit artifacts from other Asian countries,
15 such as China, Korea, and India; a board of trustees was formed in
16 1983, and in 1995, the museum moved to its current location on North
17 Chaparral Street in Corpus Christi; and

18 WHEREAS, Today, the Texas State Museum of Asian Cultures and
19 Education Center possesses more than 8,000 works of art and
20 documents, among them two life-size bronze samurai statues, a
21 five-foot bronze Amida Buddha, one of the largest collections of
22 Japanese Hakata dolls in the United States, Chinese wedding
23 ceremony costumes, embroidered kimonos, Chinese hand-carved ivory
24 and jade, Korean ceramics, brass artifacts from India, and items

1 from the Philippines, Vietnam, and Indonesia; the museum's
2 education program focuses on the geography and culture of the major
3 Asian countries and includes classes in origami, calligraphy,
4 cooking, Tai Chi, and several Asian languages; and

5 WHEREAS, For four decades, the Texas State Museum of Asian
6 Cultures has introduced visitors from across the state and nation
7 to the wonders of Asian art and history, helping to promote
8 understanding between cultures by fostering a deeper appreciation
9 of different ways of seeing the world and preparing our young
10 leaders for global participation; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
12 Legislature hereby commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Texas
13 State Museum of Asian Cultures and Education Center and extend to
14 all those associated with the museum sincere best wishes for
15 continued success in their important work; and, be it further

16 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
17 prepared for the museum as an expression of high regard by the Texas
18 House of Representatives.