

By: Guillen

H.R. No. 2457

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Texas Commission on the Arts has announced
2 the 2016 appointments for the positions of State Poet Laureate,
3 State Musician, State Two-Dimensional Artist, and State
4 Three-Dimensional Artist; and

5 WHEREAS, The state's highest accolade for excellence in the
6 arts, designation as a Texas State Artist is conferred on those
7 individuals who represent the best of our rich and diverse artistic
8 community and who inspire others through their unique creative
9 expression; and

10 WHEREAS, San Antonio native Laurie Ann Guerrero has been
11 named the 2016 State Poet Laureate; while an undergraduate at Smith
12 College, she received the prestigious Academy of American Poets
13 Prize, and her first full-length collection of poems, *A Tongue in*
14 *the Mouth of the Dying*, was selected for the 2012 Andrés Montoya
15 Poetry Prize and an International Latino Book Award and was chosen
16 as one of 14 must-read works of Chicano literature by Rigoberto
17 González; she has also been recognized with the Panhandler Chapbook
18 Award and with grants from the Artist Foundation of San Antonio and
19 the Alfredo Cisneros del Moral Foundation, and she was appointed
20 poet laureate of San Antonio by Mayor Julian Castro in 2014; her
21 latest book, *A Crown for Gumecindo*, was released by Aztlan Libre
22 Press in April 2015; and

23 WHEREAS, The 2016 State Musician is Joe Ely, an Americana
24 music pioneer whose songs are infused with a mixture of rock,

1 country, blues, and folk influences; over the course of his
2 four-decade career, he has performed thousands of shows worldwide
3 and has been honored with a Grammy Award, a Country Music
4 Association Award, and the Americana Music Association's Lifetime
5 Achievement Award for Performance; he has further distinguished
6 himself through his collaboration in the country supergroup The
7 Flatlanders, which includes fellow songwriters Jimmie Dale Gilmore
8 and Butch Hancock; and

9 WHEREAS, Dornith Doherty has been selected as the 2016 State
10 Two-Dimensional Artist; born in Houston, she has produced an
11 impressive body of work that has been exhibited and collected
12 across the globe, and she is widely known for her examinations of
13 the relationship between the natural environment and human agency;
14 moreover, she was named a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation
15 Fellow in 2012 and has received grants from the Fulbright Program,
16 the Japan Foundation, the Society for Contemporary Photography, the
17 Indiana Arts Commission, and the U.S. Department of the Interior;
18 today, she serves as the Distinguished Research Professor of Art at
19 the University of North Texas; and

20 WHEREAS, Named the 2016 State Three-Dimensional Artist,
21 Dario Robleto is an Artist Research Fellow at Rice University; he
22 uses esoteric materials and processes to create sculptures, prints,
23 and installations that investigate unexplored corners of history,
24 art, and science; since 1997, his work has been featured in more
25 than 30 solo exhibitions, the most recent of which were held at the
26 Menil Collection and Inman Gallery in Houston and at the Baltimore
27 Museum of Art, and he was awarded the 2011 Smithsonian Artist

1 Research Fellowship, the 2009 USA Rasmuson Fellowship, and the 2007
2 Joan Mitchell Foundation Grant; and

3 WHEREAS, The artists who have been selected to hold these
4 prestigious posts have all greatly contributed to the vibrant
5 cultural life of the Lone Star State, and Texas is indeed fortunate
6 to be home to these talented individuals; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
8 Legislature hereby congratulate the 2016 Texas Commission on the
9 Arts honorees and extend to them sincere best wishes for continued
10 fulfillment in their creative endeavors.