

By: Harless

H.R. No. 3320

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Keith Markuson is retiring as director of the Klein
2 High School Orchestra at the end of the 2014-2015 school year,
3 concluding an exemplary career that has spanned nearly four
4 decades; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Markuson's passion for music was first sparked
6 at an early age, when he repeatedly listened to recordings of
7 Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker Suite* and other classical
8 masterpieces; he played clarinet and percussion in his school's
9 band and went on to graduate cum laude with a bachelor's degree in
10 music education from the University of Houston in 1976; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Markuson began his career in education as an
12 assistant band director at Frank M. Black Junior High School in
13 Houston and subsequently became the school's orchestra conductor;
14 he later worked as an assistant for the Hildebrandt Intermediate
15 School Orchestra before assuming the role of director, and under
16 his guidance, the program twice earned the title of Texas Music
17 Educators Association Junior High String Honor Orchestra; and

18 WHEREAS, In 1989, Mr. Markuson was hired as the director of
19 the Klein High School Orchestra; over the course of his 26-year
20 tenure, the ensemble has grown from 30 to 180 members and has been
21 named four times as the TMEA High School Full Honor Orchestra;
22 moreover, the group has performed at Carnegie Hall in New York and
23 at the Midwest Clinic in Chicago; above all, Mr. Markuson has
24 remained dedicated to instilling in his students a love of music and

1 a commitment to excellence, instructing a before-school elementary
2 program and after-school orchestra and symphony rehearsals and
3 sectionals in addition to his teaching schedule of five classes a
4 day; and

5 WHEREAS, In all of his endeavors, Mr. Markuson has enjoyed
6 the love and support of his wife, Dodie, and his daughter, Hillary
7 Moore; and

8 WHEREAS, Countless Klein High School Orchestra alumni
9 treasure the musical education they received and the life lessons
10 they learned from a director who always challenged and inspired
11 them to do their very best, and it is a pleasure to commend Keith
12 Markuson for his longtime service and immeasurable contributions to
13 the Klein Independent School District; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
15 Legislature hereby congratulate Keith Markuson on his retirement as
16 director of the Klein High School Orchestra and extend to him
17 sincere best wishes for continued happiness and fulfillment; and,
18 be it further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
20 prepared for Mr. Markuson as an expression of high regard by the
21 Texas House of Representatives.