

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 953

In Memory
of
John Paul Gimble

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas joins citizens across the state in mourning the loss of beloved fiddler John Paul Gimble, who died May 9, 2015, at the age of 88; and

WHEREAS, Johnny Gimble was born in Tyler on May 30, 1926; inspired by his uncles' musical talent, he began playing fiddle at age 10, and within two years he was performing with his brothers in his first band, the Rose City Swingsters; and

WHEREAS, His legendary music career took off in 1949, when he began playing fiddle and electric mandolin for Bob Wills' Texas Playboys, a renowned western swing band; he left Texas in 1968 to join the Nashville music scene and found success as a session musician and as a regular on the famed television series *Hee Haw*; and

WHEREAS, His love for Texas eventually drew him back to his home state, and in the ensuing years he worked with such greats as Merle Haggard and Willie Nelson; his extraordinary talent was brought to the big screen in films like *Honkytonk Man* and *Honeysuckle Rose*; and

WHEREAS, Between 1975 and 1990, Johnny won a total of 14 Musician of the Year awards, and his timeless talent was woven into modern country music through his work with stars, such as Carrie Underwood, Vince Gill, and Ray Benson of Asleep at the Wheel; and

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WHEREAS, Johnny Gimble was a treasured son of the Lone Star State, and he and his musical legacy will live on in the hearts of his countless fans and loved ones; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 84th Legislature, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of John Paul Gimble; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for his family as an expression of deepest sympathy from the Texas Senate and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Johnny Gimble.

Kolkhorst

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 22, 2015, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate