

By: Israel

H.R. No. 816

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Spiritual leader and humanitarian Sri Sri Ravi
2 Shankar is visiting Austin on March 20, 2017; and

3 WHEREAS, Born in southern India in 1956, Mr. Shankar began
4 his religious studies as a small boy; his first instructor was
5 Sudhakar Chaturvedi, a close associate of Mahatma Gandhi, and he
6 went on to complete degrees in both Vedic literature and physics;
7 today, he serves as chancellor of Sri Sri University and as chair of
8 the Quality Control of India Yoga Certification Committee;
9 moreover, he is a member of the Amarnath Shrine Board; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Shankar founded the Art of Living, an
11 international, nonprofit organization that offers educational and
12 self-improvement programs aimed at eliminating stress and
13 fostering a sense of well-being; in 1997, he established the
14 International Association for Human Values to coordinate
15 sustainable development projects, encourage compassion, and work
16 toward conflict resolution in partnership with the Art of Living;
17 volunteers from these sister organizations are promoting
18 sustainable growth in thousands of communities in rural India,
19 Africa, and South America; and

20 WHEREAS, Over the years, Mr. Shankar has led initiatives to
21 assist disaster victims, terror attack survivors, children in
22 marginalized populations, and other vulnerable people around the
23 world; he serves as a peace ambassador, advocating powerfully for
24 nonviolent solutions, interfaith harmony, and multicultural

1 education as the remedy for fanaticism; moreover, he has drawn from
2 the ancient traditions of yoga and meditation to devise new
3 techniques for stress reduction and spiritual enrichment; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Shankar's contributions have earned him myriad
5 accolades, including the highest civilian awards conferred by
6 Colombia, Mongolia, and Paraguay, as well as a host of honorary
7 degrees; and

8 WHEREAS, Through his wisdom and philanthropy, Sri Sri Ravi
9 Shankar has touched the lives of innumerable people, and it is
10 indeed a pleasure to welcome him to Austin; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
12 Legislature hereby honor Sri Sri Ravi Shankar for his contributions
13 as a spiritual leader and humanitarian and extend to him sincere
14 best wishes for a memorable and meaningful visit; and, be it further

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