

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 875

**WHEREAS**, The Texas Commission on the Arts has announced the appointment of Kermit Oliver as the 2017 State Two-Dimensional Artist; and

**WHEREAS**, The Texas State Artist designations are awarded to a select group of individuals to honor the exceptional quality of their work and their outstanding commitment to the arts in Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, A retired postal worker from Waco, Kermit Oliver has earned national and international recognition for his paintings and drawings, which frequently incorporate religious and allegorical symbolism; in 1985, he became the first American artist commissioned to design scarves for Hermès, the Parisian fashion house, and his work was featured in the inaugural exhibition at the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C.; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Oliver's work has also been shown at numerous galleries and museums in Texas, including the Nave Museum in Victoria and the Martin Museum of Art at Baylor University, and he was the subject of a lifetime retrospective at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, in 2005; an alumnus of Texas Southern University, he was recognized with the first ever Lifetime Achievement Award from Art League Houston; and

**WHEREAS**, Widely admired for his immense talent, Kermit Oliver has made important contributions to his chosen field of artistic endeavor, and in so doing, he has enriched the cultural vitality of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 85th Legislature, hereby congratulate Kermit Oliver on his selection as the 2017 State Two-Dimensional Artist and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for Mr. Oliver as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Menéndez

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 24, 2017.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate