

By: Kacal

H.R. No. 1154

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, For nearly half a century, progressive country icon
2 Gary P. Nunn has been a standard-bearer for Texas music; and

3 WHEREAS, Born in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, in 1945, Mr. Nunn moved
4 to Brownfield with his family in the sixth grade and soon joined a
5 garage band; later, while studying pharmacy at The University of
6 Texas at Austin, he played keyboards in a local supergroup, the
7 Lavender Hill Express; he became one of the progenitors of Austin's
8 "cosmic cowboy" movement, playing bass, keyboards, and guitar with
9 Willie Nelson, Michael Martin Murphey, and others; as a key member
10 of Jerry Jeff Walker's Lost Gonzo Band, he recorded six albums in
11 four years and contributed the hit "London Homesick Blues," an ode
12 to Texas that became a progressive country anthem and served for
13 nearly three decades as the theme song for the PBS show *Austin City*
14 *Limits*; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Nunn and the Gonzos released three critically
16 acclaimed albums on their own, and in 1980, he launched his solo
17 career; a trailblazer for Austin's independent music scene, he
18 established his own label and publishing company, and he and his
19 wife, Ruth, managed his career as he toured Europe and appeared on
20 *Austin City Limits*, *Nashville Now*, and other television programs;
21 his large catalogue includes "What I Like About Texas," which
22 became the inspiration for a Texas Travel Industry Association
23 campaign, and over the years, many artists have recorded his songs;
24 Rosanne Cash climbed the country singles chart with "Couldn't Do

1 Nothing Right," while Willie Nelson scored a No. 2 hit with "Last
2 Thing I Needed, First Thing This Morning," which resurfaced on the
3 2018 Grammy Album of the Year by Chris Stapleton; that same year,
4 Mr. Nunn showcased state pride on *Friends for Life*, a collection of
5 his duets with a cavalcade of stars, including Lyle Lovett and
6 Robert Earl Keen; and

7 WHEREAS, Inducted into the Texas Hall of Fame in 2004,
8 Mr. Nunn is also a member of the West Texas Walk of Fame; he was
9 named Ambassador of Texas Music by Governor Rick Perry, and among
10 numerous accolades, he received the Country Music Association of
11 Texas Living Legend Award; dubbed "a Texas institution" by the
12 authoritative *All Music Guide*, he holds a special place in the
13 state's musical firmament and in the hearts of countless fans
14 around the world; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
16 Legislature hereby honor Gary P. Nunn for his outstanding
17 contributions to music and extend to him sincere best wishes for the
18 future; and, be it further

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