

By: A. Johnson of Harris

H.R. No. 151

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Texas Folklife is hosting its 32nd annual Accordion
2 Kings & Queens concert in Houston on November 6, 2021; and

3 WHEREAS, Established in 1984, Texas Folklife works to
4 preserve and present the state's diverse cultures and the vibrant
5 traditions passed down within communities; the nonprofit
6 organization explores the role of traditional arts in contemporary
7 society and provides arts experiences for the enjoyment of young
8 and old; through its outstanding efforts, it has earned designation
9 by the National Endowment for the Arts as the official folk and
10 traditional arts organization for Texas; and

11 WHEREAS, TXF has sponsored Accordion Kings & Queens for more
12 than three decades; the free, family-friendly event draws thousands
13 to Houston each year to enjoy the marvelous diversity of genres
14 featuring the squeezebox, including conjunto, polka,
15 country-western, zydeco, and Cajun; coverage by such media outlets
16 as the *New York Times*, NPR, and Fox 8 New Orleans has raised its
17 profile beyond our state's borders; and

18 WHEREAS, Over the years, TXF has showcased such nationally
19 noted headliners as Flaco Jimenez Jr., CJ Chenier, Los Texmaniacs,
20 and Eva Ybarra; it has also introduced rising stars, such as the
21 champions of its Annual Big Squeeze Youth Accordion Competition,
22 and it encourages the development of young musicians as the next
23 generation of tradition-bearers through mentorships and
24 opportunities to play for large crowds; and

1 WHEREAS, The festival went virtual in 2020 due to the
2 COVID-19 pandemic; for 2021, the event's reach has expanded, with
3 options for fans to enjoy the performances both in person and
4 online; and

5 WHEREAS, Bringing diverse communities together around a
6 shared love of Texas music, Accordion Kings & Queens celebrates the
7 richness of our cultural heritage while fostering its continued
8 vibrancy; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
10 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby commemorate Texas
11 Folklife's 32nd annual Accordion Kings & Queens concert and extend
12 to all those participating sincere best wishes for a memorable and
13 enjoyable experience.