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By:  Jetton H.R. No. 1346

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Rod Humphries, an Australian-born author, sports journalist, and television writer, has added U.S. citizenship to his long list of achievements; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Humphries began his extensive career in sports journalism with the *Sydney Morning Herald* and its sister newspaper, the *Sun Herald*; over many years as an international sports columnist, he has had the opportunity to interview sports icons such as track and field legend Jesse Owens and heavyweight boxing champion Joe Frazier and to cover some of the most memorable events in the world of sports; in 1975, he made his foray into television as the head writer of Australia's award-winning *This is Your Life* program, and in 1976, he was the subject of a national documentary called *Action Replay* that chronicled a day in his life as a sports journalist; and

WHEREAS, After traveling to the United States to write a book on tennis in 1977, Mr. Humphries was offered a job by Lamar Hunt, the famed Texas oilman and sports promoter, in his World Championship Tennis organization; beginning as its director of public relations and tournaments, Mr. Humphries later became chief operating officer of WCT, an international tour that spanned 12 countries; in 1980 and 1981, he wrote tennis specials about the WCT tour for ESPN, which were some of the first documentaries produced by the network in its early days; from 1986 to 1988, he was the media director for the Lipton International Players Championship; and

WHEREAS, As he settled into his new home in the U.S., Mr. Humphries continued to write regular columns and produce radio reports for Australian audiences on American and international sports; his column "This is America" appeared in the *Sun Herald*, and his column "Stateside" was published in the national newspaper *The Australian* for more than a decade; he also authored the bestseller *Lionel Rose: Australian* about the indigenous Australian boxer, along with several other books, *Love and Faults*, *The Doberman Pinscher*, and *Little League to the Major Leagues*; and

WHEREAS, For more than four decades, the United States has benefited from the hard work, talent, and dedication that Rod Humphries has brought to all of his endeavors, and it is a pleasure to recognize him as he celebrates the culmination of his long journey to American citizenship; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby congratulate Rod Humphries on becoming a citizen of the United States of America and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued happiness in his adopted country; and, be it further

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