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By:  Shine H.R. No. 1800

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Texas has lost many of its historic dance halls, but the Sulak family continues to welcome patrons to Tom Sefcik Hall in Seaton; and

WHEREAS, Although Seaton lost its post office in 1907, and its population has dwindled to around 40, Sefcik Hall is still a going concern, thanks to Alice Sefcik Sulak, who is likely the longest-serving female dance hall owner in the state, according to Texas Dance Hall Preservation; she is supported in her efforts by her son, Kenny, and his wife, Irene; and

WHEREAS, The two-story hall was built in 1923 by its namesake, Mrs. Sulak's father, and originally served as a general store; she was born in the house next door in 1931 and started helping out in the business at the age of 14, balancing the books and booking the bands, which were mostly Czech groups early on; a talented singer and musician, she has also performed at the venue; as a girl, she played bass drum and saxophone in her sister's band, Adela and the Music Masters, and she was later a member of Jerry Haisler and the Melody 5 for more than a half century; she began running the hall in 1970; and

WHEREAS, In 2019, Sefcik Hall was presented with the Texas Dance Hall Preservation Lifetime Achievement Award; Temple also recognized November 17 of that year as Alice Sefcik Sulak Day, and a flag was flown over the State Capitol in her honor; and

WHEREAS, Sefcik Hall, like other venues, closed its doors at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic; to the relief of its many fans, it resumed operations in April 2021; and

WHEREAS, For nearly a century, Sefcik Hall has preserved the dance hall tradition established in Texas by early Czech and German settlers, and in so doing, it has garnered a loyal patronage as well as the admiration and appreciation of people across the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby honor the members of the Sulak family for their stewardship of Tom Sefcik Hall and extend to them sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

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