

By: Stephenson

H.C.R. No. 88

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Merle Reue Hudgins of Wharton has received a Yellow
2 Rose of Texas award from Governor Greg Abbott; and

3 WHEREAS, Established in the 1950s by Governor Allan Shivers,
4 the Yellow Rose of Texas award recognizes Texas women who have
5 demonstrated exceptional service to their communities; and

6 WHEREAS, A fitting recipient of this notable accolade,
7 Mrs. Hudgins has dedicated many years to documenting and sharing
8 the history of Wharton County; appointed to the Wharton County
9 Historical Commission in 1969, she has been an active member of the
10 organization for more than 50 years and has served as its chair; she
11 is the author of numerous publications on the county's history,
12 including her book *War Between the States Changed Texas Forever*,
13 and she was invited as a contributing author for the *Handbook of*
14 *Texas* by the Texas State Historical Association; she gives freely
15 of her time and expertise to organizations such as the Institute of
16 Texan Cultures in San Antonio, and for many years, she has spoken at
17 the annual banquet for the William H. Wharton Chapter of the Sons of
18 the Republic of Texas; and

19 WHEREAS, Mrs. Hudgins moved to Wharton with her family when
20 she was a child, and returned to the area after college to pursue a
21 career as a writer; in 1976, she joined the *Wharton*
22 *Journal-Spectator* as a staff columnist, and her work has also
23 appeared in the *El Campo Leader-News*; an alumna of Wharton County
24 Junior College, she has served on the institution's board of

1 trustees for more than a decade; in all her endeavors, she enjoys
2 the love and support of her husband, Joe Dawson Hudgins; and

3 WHEREAS, Through her exceptional efforts, Merle Hudgins has
4 significantly contributed to the study of Texas history, and she
5 may indeed reflect with pride on her many accomplishments; now,
6 therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the 87th Legislature of the State of Texas
8 hereby congratulate Merle Reue Hudgins on her receipt of the Yellow
9 Rose of Texas award and extend to her sincere best wishes for the
10 future; and, be it further

11 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
12 prepared for Mrs. Hudgins as an expression of high regard by the
13 Texas House of Representatives and Senate.