

By: Morales of Maverick

H.R. No. 81

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Gage Hotel in Marathon was named to the National
2 Register of Historic Places on December 4, 2020, and its inclusion
3 is a fitting tribute to the hotel's status as a treasured West Texas
4 landmark; and

5 WHEREAS, A program of the National Park Service, the National
6 Register of Historic Places is the country's official listing of
7 historic buildings and sites worthy of preservation for their
8 historic or architectural distinction; and

9 WHEREAS, The Gage Hotel was opened in Marathon in 1927 by
10 cattleman Alfred S. Gage; a native of Vermont, he came west in 1878
11 at the age of 18 with only a \$20 gold piece in his pocket, and he
12 went on to establish the largest cattle operation in the
13 Trans-Pecos region; he founded the hotel as his residence and base
14 of operations, while also providing accommodation to travelers; and

15 WHEREAS, Designed by architect Henry C. Trost, the original
16 two-story building is a fine example of the Spanish Colonial
17 Revival style, featuring a flat roof, an arcaded porch, and a
18 semicircular arch as its main entrance; during the 1960s and 70s,
19 the hotel changed hands a number of times until it was acquired in
20 1978 by J. P. Bryan, a descendant of Stephen F. Austin; under his
21 direction, the hotel was revived and renovated, with particular
22 attention to preserving its historic character, and it reopened in
23 1982; the Los Portales addition to the hotel was created in 1992 by
24 architect Randall Walton and craftsman Norman J. Dehmlow in the

1 Pueblo-Spanish Revival style, with a central courtyard and a
2 fountain; and

3 WHEREAS, Over the years, the Gage Hotel has hosted such
4 famous guests as Gutzon Borglum, the sculptor of Mount Rushmore,
5 and the celebrated Western novelist Zane Grey, who is reputed to
6 have written one of his most famous novels at the Gage; in recent
7 years, the hotel has become popular with visitors to such nearby
8 attractions as Big Bend National Park and Marfa; and

9 WHEREAS, For nearly a century, the Gage Hotel has served as a
10 prime attraction of the Big Bend Region, drawing visitors from
11 across the state and nation, and its charm and storied history make
12 it truly deserving of this prestigious national honor; now,
13 therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
15 Legislature hereby congratulate the Gage Hotel on its addition to
16 the National Register of Historic Places and extend to Mr. Bryan
17 and his staff sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it
18 further

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