

By: Jetton

H.R. No. 1346

R E S O L U T I O N

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

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

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

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

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

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

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