

By: Shine

H.R. No. 1800

R E S O L U T I O N

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

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

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

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

24           WHEREAS, Sefcik Hall, like other venues, closed its doors at

1 the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic; to the relief of its many  
2 fans, it resumed operations in April 2021; and

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

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

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