

1-1 By: Shofner (Senate Sponsor - Hughes) H.C.R. No. 74  
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 5, 2025;  
1-3 May 5, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on  
1-4 Administration; May 7, 2025, reported favorably by the following  
1-5 vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0; May 7, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			

1-15 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-16 WHEREAS, The Lone Star State is renowned around the world for  
1-17 its extensive contributions to country music, and the city of  
1-18 Carthage has played a significant role in furthering the genre and  
1-19 celebrating and preserving its cultural legacy; and

1-20 WHEREAS, Carthage is home to the Texas Country Music Hall of  
1-21 Fame, which focuses on the state's contributions to this  
1-22 American-born artform and on the many Texas performers and  
1-23 songwriters who have shaped its development; and

1-24 WHEREAS, That illustrious list includes two country legends  
1-25 who trace their roots to the Carthage area: Tex Ritter and Jim  
1-26 Reeves; Mr. Ritter hailed from Murvaul, just south of Carthage, and  
1-27 during a career that stretched from the 1930s to the 1970s, he  
1-28 became a beloved cowboy singer and star of more than 70 Western  
1-29 movies; his achievements are chronicled in the Tex Ritter Museum,  
1-30 which was first organized in Carthage in 1993 and is now part of the  
1-31 Texas Country Music Hall of Fame; Mr. Reeves, a Carthage High  
1-32 School graduate, earned legions of fans for his velvet-voiced style  
1-33 of singing and recorded numerous hits from the early 1950s until his  
1-34 tragic death in a plane crash in 1964; his gravesite east of  
1-35 Carthage continues to draw visitors from around the globe; and

1-36 WHEREAS, In addition to paying tribute to Mr. Ritter and  
1-37 Mr. Reeves, the Texas Country Music Hall of Fame includes an elite  
1-38 roster of other Texas-born musicians; inductees range from early  
1-39 figures such as Ernest Tubb and Bob Wills, to classic country  
1-40 superstars like Willie Nelson and George Jones, to influential  
1-41 performers and songwriters such as Tanya Tucker, Clint Black, Cindy  
1-42 Walker, and Carthage native Linda Davis, to name but a few of those  
1-43 who are honored; and

1-44 WHEREAS, Each summer, the Texas Country Music Hall of Fame  
1-45 presents the Classic Country Music Festival, a multiday celebration  
1-46 that draws thousands of visitors from across the state and beyond to  
1-47 enjoy live performances, the hall of fame induction ceremony, and  
1-48 other events; and

1-49 WHEREAS, Another annual musical highlight is the John Ritter  
1-50 Showcase, which spotlights emerging talent in country music and  
1-51 celebrates the late John Ritter, the son of Tex Ritter, who was an  
1-52 iconic entertainer in his own right as well as an effective advocate  
1-53 for the arts; moreover, Carthage hosts the Country Music Hayride, a  
1-54 continuing series of performances at the Esquire Theater; and

1-55 WHEREAS, The citizens of Carthage have demonstrated a lasting  
1-56 commitment to celebrating the rich history of Texas country music,  
1-57 and the city's efforts to foster greater appreciation of the genre  
1-58 and the state's impressive pantheon of performers is indeed  
1-59 deserving of special recognition; now, therefore, be it

1-60 RESOLVED, That the 89th Legislature of the State of Texas  
1-61 hereby designate Carthage as the official Country Music Capital of

2-1 Texas; and, be it further  
2-2       RESOLVED, That, in accordance with the provisions of  
2-3 Section 391.003(e), Government Code, this designation remain in  
2-4 effect until the 10th anniversary of the date this resolution is  
2-5 finally passed by the legislature.

2-6                               \* \* \* \* \*