

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
Hall	X			
Hinojosa of Nueces	X			
Cook	X			
Eckhardt	X			
Kolkhorst	X			
Menéndez	X			
Middleton	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.

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