

By: Raymond

H.R. No. 14

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The 30th anniversary of the first broadcast of the  
2 television miniseries *Lonesome Dove* provides a welcome opportunity  
3 to celebrate the iconic performances of its two stars, the actors  
4 Robert Duvall and Tommy Lee Jones; and

5           WHEREAS, Adapted from the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel by  
6 Larry McMurtry, *Lonesome Dove* is the saga of an epic cattle drive  
7 from South Texas to the mountains of Montana in the late 1870s;  
8 originally aired in four episodes between February 5 and February  
9 8, 1989, this beautifully written and directed narrative features  
10 more than a dozen vividly rendered major characters, but at the  
11 center of the story are two legendary cattlemen, Woodrow F. Call and  
12 Augustus McCrae; and

13           WHEREAS, These two former captains in the Texas Rangers are  
14 partners in the Hat Creek Cattle Company in the small border town of  
15 Lonesome Dove; Captain Call is a stern leader with an unflinching  
16 code of honor, and in the powerful performance of Tommy Lee Jones,  
17 he is a man of few words, immense dignity, and a great deal of  
18 repressed emotion; Gus McCrae is a much livelier gentleman, fond of  
19 drinking, gambling, and the company of women, and Robert Duvall's  
20 portrayal constitutes an actor's master class in homespun wit,  
21 physical grace, and effortless charm; and

22           WHEREAS, *Lonesome Dove* teems with character and incident,  
23 ranging from the comic to the violent to the heartbreaking, but the  
24 soul of the story is the often contentious but always unbreakable

1 bond between Woodrow and Gus, and thanks to the skill of these two  
2 gifted actors, *Lonesome Dove* represents one of the most moving  
3 evocations of lifelong friendship ever committed to film; any  
4 viewer who does not weep during their final parting at Gus's  
5 deathbed is surely made of stone; and

6         WHEREAS, Among the finest actors of his generation,  
7 Mr. Duvall has enjoyed a long career encompassing roles in such  
8 classics as *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *The Godfather*, *Apocalypse Now*,  
9 and *Tender Mercies*; the equally revered Mr. Jones, a native Texan,  
10 has turned in magnificent performances in such films as *Coal*  
11 *Miner's Daughter*, *The Fugitive*, *No Country for Old Men*, and  
12 *Lincoln*; and

13         WHEREAS, Acclaimed by critics and viewers alike at the time  
14 of its airing, *Lonesome Dove* has gone on to become the unofficial  
15 "national epic" of the Lone Star State, and its indelible place in  
16 the hearts of Texans and audiences around the world is due in large  
17 part to the brilliance and charisma of these two great American  
18 actors; now, therefore, be it

19         RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas  
20 Legislature hereby commemorate the 30th anniversary of the first  
21 broadcast of *Lonesome Dove* and commend Robert Duvall and Tommy Lee  
22 Jones for their masterful performances; and, be it further

23         RESOLVED, That official copies of this resolution be prepared  
24 for Mr. Duvall and Mr. Jones as an expression of high regard by the  
25 Texas House of Representatives.