WHEREAS, The history of Texas and the men who made it, coupled with the legend and drama of the frontier, have been captured by John Worth Cloud in his saga of Texas borderlands, THE LEGEND OF OLD STONE RANCH; and

WHEREAS, An epic poem of Texas ranking with the famed KALEVALA, the national epic poem of Finland, THE LEGEND OF THE OLD STONE RANCH is a collection of colorful episodes from Texas history written in unrhymed alliterative eight-syllabled verse telling a story, like the KALEVALA, of a specific geographical area; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cloud's poetic interpretation of early 19th century life on the Texas frontier involves the reader in the fictional romance of Newton Givens and his beloved Lucinda against the backdrop of rugged grandeur that characterizes Shackelford County, where Comanche and buffalo can almost be seen today disappearing into the horizon; and

WHEREAS, In discussing the book, the poet said: "Newton Givens and Old Stone Ranch came alive (to me) following a delightful visit to the Putnam Ranch and a tour of various sites pertinent to the story ..."; and

WHEREAS, While the main characters in the book are fiction, events surrounding their lives were very much a part of everyday life on the frontier, and the story was written only after diligent inquiry and investigation; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cloud said that writing the legend in verse was an irresistible challenge, one that reached him while he was researching "Shackelford County Sketches" by Don Biggers, when the grave scene so impressed him that he wrote it in verse:

... On a high hill overlooking Old Stone Ranch, a cemetery With a single grave stands vigil Over sweeping, rugged grandeur Of a land now roamed by cattle.

The discovery, inadvertent Of the tomb was made by persons Looking for long-buried treasure. In the tiny hand-hewn casket Was the body of an infant.

Rocks and hills hold fast the secret Of the tender hands that placed it In the hallowed earth to slumber.

Yet, to one's imagination Comes the vision of a woman, Bowed in grief by her bereavement, Raising tear-dimmed eyes to heaven,
Asking God to grant her surcease
From the sorrow in her bosom.

WHEREAS, On June 20, 1969, the Texas Historical Survey
Committee gave to John Worth Cloud of Albany, Texas, the official
state award for "Best Historical Publication of the Year on Local
or Regional History" in recognition of his book, LEGEND OF OLD
STONE RANCH; and

WHEREAS, It is appropriate that the 61st Legislature of
the State of Texas commend John Worth Cloud for his distinguished
accomplishment in delineating the glorious country that is Texas
and interlacing romance and description with the charming legends
of American Indians to make THE LEGEND OF OLD STONE RANCH a true
Texas saga; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by the Senate of the 61st Legislature, 1st Called
Session, the House of Representatives concurring, That the Texas
Legislature hereby congratulate John Worth Cloud on his momentous
work, THE LEGEND OF OLD STONE RANCH, and with this Resolution
officially designate the saga of the Texas frontier as the official
epic poem of Texas; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be prepared for
John Worth Cloud of Albany, Texas, for the Texas State Historical
Survey Committee, and for the Archives Division, Texas State
Library, in expressing the will of the Texas Legislature that
THE LEGEND OF OLD STONE RANCH be the official epic poem of Texas.
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 8

WHEREAS, The history of Texas and the men who made it, coupled with the legend and drama of the frontier, have been captured by John Worth Cloud in his saga of Texas borderlands, THE LEGEND OF OLD STONE RANCH; and

WHEREAS, An epic poem of Texas ranking with the famed KALEVALA, the national epic poem of Finland, THE LEGEND OF THE OLD STONE RANCH is a collection of colorful episodes from Texas history written in unrhymed alliterative eight-syllabled verse telling a story, like the KALEVALA, of a specific geographical area; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cloud's poetic interpretation of early 19th century life on the Texas frontier involves the reader in the fictional romance of Newton Givens and his beloved Lucinda against the backdrop of rugged grandeur that characterizes Shackelford County, where Comanche and buffalo can almost be seen today disappearing into the horizon; and

WHEREAS, In discussing the book, the poet said: "Newton Givens and Old Stone Ranch came alive (to me) following a delightful visit to the Putnam Ranch and a tour of various sites pertinent to the story..."; and

WHEREAS, While the main characters in the book are fiction, events surrounding their lives were very much a part of everyday life on the frontier, and the story was written only after diligent inquiry and investigation; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cloud said that writing the legend in verse was an irresistible challenge, one that reached him while he was researching "Shackelford County Sketches" by Don Biggers, when the grave scene so impressed him that he wrote it in verse:
"... On a high hill overlooking
Old Stone Ranch, a cemetery
With a single grave stands vigil
Oversweeping, rugged grandeur
Of a land now roamed by cattle.

The discovery, inadvertent
Of the tomb was made by persons
Looking for long-buried treasure.
In the tiny hand-hewn casket
Was the body of an infant.

Rocks and hills held fast the secret
Of the tender hands that placed it
In the hallowed earth to slumber.

Yet, to one's imagination
Comes the vision of a woman,
Bowed in grief by her bereavement,
Raising tear-dimmed eyes to heaven,

Asking God to grant her succor
From the sorrow in her bosom..."; and

WHEREAS, On June 20, 1969, the Texas Historical Survey
Committee gave to John Worth Cloud of Albany, Texas, the official
state award for "Best Historical Publication of the Year on Local
or Regional History" in recognition of his book,
LEGEND OF OLD STONE RANCH; and

WHEREAS, It is appropriate that the 61st Legislature,
1st Called Session of the State of Texas commend John Worth Cloud
for his distinguished accomplishment in delineating the glorious
country that is Texas and interlacing romance and description
with the charming legends of American Indians to make
THE LEGEND OF OLD STONE RANCH a true Texas saga; now, therefore,
be it

S. C. R. No. 3

2
RESOLVED, by the Senate of the 61st Legislature,
1st Called Session, the House of Representatives concurring, that
the Texas Legislature hereby congratulate John Worth Cloud on his
momentous work, THE LEGEND OF OLD STONE RANCH, and with this
Resolution officially designate the saga of the Texas frontier as
the official epic poem of Texas; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution be prepared for
John Worth Cloud of Albany, Texas, for the
Texas State Historical Survey Committee, and for the
Archives Division, Texas State Library, in expressing the will of
the Texas Legislature that THE LEGEND OF OLD STONE RANCH be the
official epic poem of Texas.
WHERAS, The history of Texas and the men who made it, coupled with the legend and drama of the frontier, have been captured by John Worth Cloud in his saga of Texas borderlands, THE LEGEND OF OLD STONE RANCH; and

WHERAS, an epic poem of Texas ranking with the famed KALEVALA, the national epic poem of Finland,

THE LEGEND OF THE OLD STONE RANCH is a collection of colorful episodes from Texas history written in unrhymed alliterative eight-syllabled verse telling a story, like the KALEVALA, of a specific geographical area; and

WHERAS, Mr. Cloud's poetic interpretation of early 19th century life on the Texas frontier involves the reader in the fictional romance of Newton Givens and his beloved Lucinda against the backdrop of rugged grandeur that characterizes Shackelford County, where Comanche and buffalo can almost be seen today disappearing into the horizon; and

WHERAS, In discussing the book, the poet said:

"Newton Givens and Old Stone Ranch came alive (to me) following a delightful visit to the Putnam Ranch and a tour of various sites pertinent to the story . . ."; and

WHERAS, While the main characters in the book are fiction, events surrounding their lives were very much a part of everyday life on the frontier, and the story was written only after diligent inquiry and investigation; and

WHERAS, Mr. Cloud said that writing the legend in verse was an irresistible challenge, one that reached him while he was researching "Shackelford County Sketches" by Don Biggers, when the grave scene so impressed him that he wrote it in verse:
... On a high hill overlooking Old Stone Ranch, a cemetery With a single grave stands vigilant Oversweeping, rugged grandeur Of a land now roamed by cattle.

The discovery, inadvertent Of the tomb was made by persons Looking for long-buried treasure. In the tiny hand-hewn casket Was the body of an infant.

Rocks and hills hold fast the secret Of the tender hands that placed it In the hallowed earth to slumber.

Yet, to one’s imagination Comes the vision of a woman, Bowed in grief by her bereavement, Raising tear-dimmed eyes to heaven,

Asking God to grant her suertease From the sorrow in her bosom..."; and

WHEREAS, On June 20, 1969, the Texas Historical Survey Committee gave to John Worth Cloud of Albany, Texas, the official state award for “Best Historical Publication of the Year on Local or Regional History” in recognition of his book, LEGEND OF OLD STONE RANCH; and

WHEREAS, It is appropriate that the 61st Legislature, 1st Called Session of the State of Texas commend John Worth Cloud for his distinguished accomplishment in delineating the glorious country that is Texas and interlacing romance and description with the charming legends of American Indians to make THE LEGEND OF OLD STONE RANCH a true Texas saga; now, therefore, be it

S. C. R. No. 8
RESOLVED, By the Senate of the 61st Legislature, 1st Called Session, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Texas Legislature hereby congratulate John Worth Cloud on his momentous work, THE LEGEND OF OLD STONE RANCH, and with this Resolution officially designate the saga of the Texas frontier as the official epic poem of Texas; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be prepared for John Worth Cloud of Albany, Texas, for the Texas State Historical Survey Committee, and for the Archives Division, Texas State Library, in expressing the will of the Texas Legislature that THE LEGEND OF OLD STONE RANCH be the official epic poem of Texas.
I hereby certify that S. C. R. No. 3 was adopted by the Senate on August 5, 1969.

I hereby certify that S. C. R. No. 8 was adopted by the House on August 6, 1969.

Approved:

8-7-69

Signed

Governor
S.C.R. No. 8

By Ratliff

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

congratulating John Worth Cloud

AUG 5 1969
Immediate consideration ordered by
unanimous consent.

AUG 5 1969
Read and Adopted.

Charles Schnabel
Secretary of the Senate

E. F. Dwyer

1969 Engrossed

Engrossing Clerk
W: Ratliff
S. C. R. No. 8

Congratulating John Worth Cloud, etc.

1-5-69 Immediate consideration ordered by unanimous consent.

1-5-69 Read and adopted.

Charles Schnabel, Secretary of the Senate

1-5-69 Engrossed.

Eunice McGinnis
ENGROSSING CLERK

AUG 6 1969 ENGROSSED

AUG 6 1969 SENT TO HOUSE

AUG 6 1969 Received from
the Senate

Dorothy Hallman
Chief Clerk, House of Representatives

DATE
AUG 6 1969 

RECEIVED AND ADOPTED
Dorothy Hallman
Chief Clerk
House of Representatives

AUG 6 1969 RETURNED TO SENATE

AUG 6 1969 RETURNED FROM HOUSE