HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The State of Texas has not officially designated a State gemstone or a State mineral; and
WHEREAS, The Texas Gem and Mineral Society has adopted appropriate resolutions in support of designating the Blue Topaz as the official State gemstone and Plumwood as the official State mineral; and
WHEREAS, It is appropriate that the 61st Legislature take the necessary action whereby Blue Topaz and Plumwood may be officially named as the State Gemstone and the State mineral, respectively; now, therefore, be it
RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the State of Texas, the Senate concurring, That the recommendations of the Texas Gem and Mineral Society be and are hereby adopted, and that the Blue Topaz be and is hereby declared to be the official State gemstone and the Plumwood be and is hereby declared to be the official State mineral of Texas.
The Texas Federation of Mineral Societies sponsored a campaign to determine the most popular stone and gem among Texas citizens. The election was conducted through the various Mineral Society Clubs across the state. The results of the polls showed that the Texas Petrified Palmwood was the most popular stone, while the Texas Blue Topaz received the most votes as the popular gem.

Following this poll, Representative Bob Armstrong and Representative Forrest A. Harding introduced H.C.R. No. 12 which provides for the adoption of the Texas Petrified Palmwood and the Texas Blue Topaz as the state stone and gem respectively.

To provide the reader with a more detailed explanation of the proposed state stone and gem, portions of an article appearing in the Austin American Statesman of December 1, 1968 are presented below.

Petrified wood is now becoming very scarce but at one time the area around Dime Box yielded many fine specimens. It is still found around Three Rivers and Falls City. Petrified or opalized palmwood is found in an area called the Tertiary System of Texas, roughly 20 miles wide from the Rio Grande around Laredo northeastward to East Texas and Louisiana, and formed over 60 million years ago. Petrified wood forms when plant materials, such as trees, is replaced by a mineral, and because the change is slow, the original shape and structure of the wood remains unchanged. Petrified palmwood, found in shades of brown also a brownish red, is identified by the pores in the wood which look like small specks.

Topaz found in Texas is either colorless, pale blue or a very light yellow, and some fragments of it resembles quartz. However, topaz is heavier and harder than quartz. Topaz crystals occur in the Llano uplift area of Central Texas near Strester and Grist in Mason County. A number of specimens from the latter are displayed in museums.... The Texas topaz makes excellent gemstones and are cut and polished for use in rings and other jewelry.

Display of the Texas Petrified Palmwood and the Texas Blue Topaz has been set up in the north hall of the Capitol on the first floor.

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE ACTION:

The sub-committee to which was referred H. C. R. No. 12 offered as committee substitute for the resolution. This resolution designated the state gem as the Texas Blue Topaz, and the state stone as the Petrified Palmwood. The committee reported the resolution back to the House with the recommendation that it do pass, as amended, and be not printed. The Committee Substitute be printed in lieu of the original resolution.
FORM C
(For a favorable report on a bill where a "committee substitute" was recommended by the committee.)

COMMITTEE REPORT

Date 3-10-69

HON. G. F. (GUS) MUTSCHER
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir:

We, your Committee on *Governmental Affairs & Efficiency*, to whom was referred *H.C.P. No. 12*, have had the same under consideration and beg to report back with recommendation that it do pass, and be not printed.

Committee Substitute was recommended and is to be printed in lieu of the original bill.

Chairman.

(A "committee substitute" in the case of a bill is in the form of two suggested amendments, a new body and a new caption. Under the Rules a committee may authorize the printing of the "committee substitute" in lieu of the original bill. If the original caption is adequate, the "committee substitute" should be only a new body; and in such case the original caption should be printed along with the suggested new body.)
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO. 1

Amend H.C.R. No. 12 to read as follows:

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The State of Texas has not officially designated a State gem or a State stone; and
WHEREAS, The Texas Gem and Mineral Society has adopted appropriate resolutions in support of designating the TEXAS BLUE TOPAZ as the official State gem and PETRIFIED PALMWOOD as the official State stone; and
WHEREAS, It is appropriate that the 61st Legislature take the necessary action whereby the TEXAS BLUE TOPAZ and PETRIFIED PALMWOOD may be officially named as the State gem and the State stone, respectively; now, therefore, be it
RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the State of Texas, the Senate concurring, That the recommendations of the Texas Gem and Mineral Society be and are hereby adopted, and that the TEXAS BLUE TOPAZ be and is hereby declared to be the official State gem and PETRIFIED PALMWOOD be and is hereby declared to be the official State stone of Texas.

MAR 19 1969

DATE

READ AND ADOPTED

CHIEF CLERK

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The State of Texas has not officially designated a State gem or a State stone; and __________________________

WHEREAS, The Texas Gem and Mineral Society has adopted appropriate resolutions in support of designating the TEXAS BLUE TOPAZ as the official State gem and PETRIFIED PALMWOOD as the official State stone; and __________________________

WHEREAS, It is appropriate that the 61st Legislature take the necessary action whereby the TEXAS BLUE TOPAZ and PETRIFIED PALMWOOD may be officially named as the State gem and the State stone, respectively; now, therefore, be it __________________________

RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the State of Texas, the Senate concurring, That the recommendations of the Texas Gem and Mineral Society be and are hereby adopted, and that the TEXAS BLUE TOPAZ be and is hereby declared to be the official State gem and PETRIFIED PALMWOOD be and is hereby declared to be the official State stone of Texas. __________________________
ROUNOE CONCURRORAT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The State of Texas has not officially designated a
State Gem or a State Stone, and

WHEREAS, The Texas Gem and Mineral Society has adopted appro-
priate resolutions in support of designating the TEXAS BLUE TOPAZ
as the official State gem and PETRIFIED PALMWOOD as the official
State stone, and

WHEREAS, It is appropriate that the 61st Legislature take
the necessary action whereby the TEXAS BLUE TOPAZ and PETRIFIED
PALMWOOD may be officially named as the State gem and the State
stone, respectively, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the State of
Texas, the Senate concurring, that the recommendations of the Texas
Gem and Mineral Society be and are hereby adopted, and that the
TEXAS BLUE TOPAZ be and is hereby declared to be the official
State gem and PETRIFIED PALMWOOD be and is hereby declared to be
the official State stone of Texas.

Lieutenant Governor

I hereby certify that H.C.R. No. 12 was adopted by the House
on March 19, 1969.

Speaker of the House

______________________________
Chief Clerk of the House
I hereby certify that H.C.R. No. 12 was adopted by the Senate on March 24, 1969.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED:  3-26-69

Date

Signed:

Governor
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

officially designating State gemstone and State mineral.

Read 1st Time
FEB 0 1969
AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON

Governmental Affairs

Dorothy Hallman
Chief Clerk, House of Representatives

MAR 10 1969 REPORTED FAVORABLY, SENT TO PRINTER AS AMENDED

PRINTED, DISTRIBUTED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, JPC

DATE
MAR 19 1969

READ AND ADOPTED AS AMENDED

Dorothy Hallman
CHIEF CLERK
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAR 10 1969
MAR 10 1969
SENT TO ENGROSSING CLERK
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

officially designating the State gem and the State stone.

1-27-69 Filed.

2-3-69 Read first time and referred to Committee on Governmental Affairs.

3-10-69 Reported favorably as amended, sent to printer.

3-11-69 Printed, distributed and referred to Committee on Rules at 10:15 a.m.

3-19-69 Read and adopted, as amended.

Dorothy Hallman
Chief Clerk, H. of R.

3-19-69 Sent to Engrossing Clerk.

3-19-69 Engrossed.

MAR 20 1969
RETURNED FROM ENGROSSING CLERK
SENT TO THE SENATE

MAR 20 1969
IN THE SENATE
Received from the House

MAR 24 1969
Immediate consideration ordered by unanimous consent.

MAR 24 1969 Read and Adopted.

Charles Schnabel
Secretary of the Senate

MAR 24 1969 SENT TO HOUSE

RETURNED FROM SENATE MAR 24 1969

Dorothy Hallman
Chief Clerk, House of Representatives

MAR 24 1969 SENT TO ENROLLING CLERK