

House Resolution 296

By: Representative Ralston of the 7th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending The Blue Ridge Mountains Arts Center on the occasion of its
2 35th anniversary; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the seeds which were sown by the loving and humble efforts of the devoted
4 original founders of The Blue Ridge Mountains Arts Center have blossomed, establishing
5 a rich tradition and history; and

6 WHEREAS, organized in 1980, The Blue Ridge Mountains Arts Center was originally
7 created with the main intention of reaching out to the local schools and teachers to offer
8 something to the students that was not available at that time; and

9 WHEREAS, today the Arts Center is home to four arts guilds, more than 35 arts activities,
10 seven art galleries, two working art studios, and various art and music classes for children
11 and adults; and

12 WHEREAS, in 2014 over 45,000 people took part in some form of art activity through the
13 center, including over 20,000 who attended the spring and fall Arts in the Park events; and

14 WHEREAS, in 2013, the Arts Center and its various activities had as much as a \$650,000
15 economic impact in the community; and

16 WHEREAS, in its 35 years, The Blue Ridge Mountains Arts Center has become a cultural
17 and economic hub of the Blue Ridge Community.

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
19 the members of this body recognize the rich history of The Blue Ridge Mountains Arts
20 Center, commend its 35 years of dedicated service to the community, and extend their
21 warmest best wishes for its continued growth and success.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
23 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to The
24 Blue Ridge Mountains Arts Center.