

1 juvenile cases and in all cases where the defendant faces the
2 possibility of incarceration; and

3 WHEREAS, In light of the foregoing Constitutional mandates,
4 Texas passed the *Fair Defense Act of 2001* to better ensure that the
5 constitutional rights of all Texans are protected; the success of
6 the Fair Defense Act is seen in the many persons receiving public
7 defense services and earlier access to counsel along with the
8 improved quality of service in the State of Texas; and

9 WHEREAS, The Fair Defense Act gave birth to the Task Force on
10 Indigent Defense, now called the Texas Indigent Defense Commission,
11 which protects the right to counsel and improves Texas public
12 defense; the commission has succeeded through the creation of
13 several new public defender offices and Managed Assigned Counsel
14 programs that provide public defense services to more than 70
15 counties; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the 88th Legislature of the State of Texas
17 hereby affirm the principles of fairness and justice recognized in
18 *Gideon v. Wainwright*, a case that symbolizes a monumental step
19 forward in American justice and upon this occasion of the 60th
20 anniversary of this historic Supreme Court case, recognize and
21 honor the work being done across the nation and the State of Texas
22 to guarantee access to counsel and ensure fairness and justice for
23 all; and, be it further

24 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared in honor
25 of this special occasion.