

By: LaMantia

S.R. No. 496

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Texas Health and Human Services Inspector General
2 Sylvia Hernandez Kauffman has demonstrated a long-standing
3 commitment to her fellow citizens over the course of her notable
4 career in public service; and

5 WHEREAS, Sylvia Kauffman first joined the Office of Inspector
6 General in 2015 after working for the Health and Human Services
7 Commission, and she previously served OIG as principal deputy
8 inspector general and deputy inspector general for data and
9 technology; she was appointed to her current position as inspector
10 general for Texas Health and Human Services by Governor Greg Abbott
11 in January 2018; and

12 WHEREAS, Among her many responsibilities, Inspector General
13 Kauffman oversees the vision, direction, strategy, and day-to-day
14 operations of the 500-person office, which is charged with
15 protecting the integrity of HHS programs and with preventing,
16 detecting, and deterring fraud, waste, and abuse in the delivery of
17 health and human services in the state; throughout her exemplary
18 tenure, she has placed a significant emphasis on the use of data
19 analytics, and as a result, recoveries have steadily increased
20 despite a reduction in overall staff; in the 2022 fiscal year alone,
21 the agency recovered nearly half a billion dollars and demonstrated
22 a return of \$6.21 for every dollar invested; in total, the OIG has
23 recovered more than \$2 billion for Texas taxpayers under her able
24 leadership; and

1 WHEREAS, Born and raised in the Rio Grande Valley, Inspector
2 General Kauffman was the valedictorian of her high school and a
3 first-generation college student; she holds a bachelor's degree in
4 computer science from Stanford University and a master's degree in
5 public policy from Harvard University; earlier in her career, she
6 was employed by the Strategic Planning Unit in the Information
7 Technology Division of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, where she
8 received the Governor's Special Achievement Award for her work in
9 transforming the delivery of government services; and

10 WHEREAS, Through her skill, professionalism, and commitment
11 to excellence, Sylvia Kauffman has greatly benefited the people of
12 the Lone Star State, and she may indeed reflect with pride on her
13 outstanding record of service; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 88th Texas Legislature
15 hereby honor Sylvia Hernandez Kauffman for her professional
16 accomplishments and extend to her sincere best wishes for continued
17 success; and, be it further

18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
19 prepared for Inspector General Kauffman as an expression of high
20 regard by the Texas Senate.