## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Legislature of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Sisters of Mercy, a religious order that serves people all over the world through education, health care and other ministries; and

WHEREAS, The Congregation of Sisters of Mercy was founded by Catherine McAuley, of Dublin, Ireland, who was known for her passion for helping the poor; she inherited a sizable fortune and built the House of Mercy, where she cared for and educated destitute girls and from which she and others went out to visit the sick and to take them both spiritual and material help to ease their suffering; and

WHEREAS, Catherine was encouraged by the clergy to establish a religious community to ensure her work would continue after her death, and after a year of instruction, she and two other women became the first Sisters of Mercy in 1831; the congregation grew rapidly and soon would encircle the world to nurse the sick, minister to the poor and teach the uneducated; and

WHEREAS, Three Sisters of Mercy arrived in Laredo in 1894, and with just $\$ 445$ and a vision for healing, they established the city's first hospital, Mercy Hospital; its successor, Mercy Health Center, is recognized as one of the top hospitals in the nation and twice was named one of the 100 Top Hospitals; and

WHEREAS, The good works performed by Sisters of Mercy are
immeasurable, and the hospital they established 109 years ago in Laredo today impacts the lives of almost every citizen in the Laredo area; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature of the State of Texas, 3rd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to Sisters of Mercy for the order's invaluable work on behalf of the citizens of South Texas and citizens around the globe; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be prepared as an expression of esteem from the Texas Legislature.

