

By: Uresti

H.C.R. No. 193

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Approximately 90,000 older Texans live in the
2 state's 1,200 licensed assisted living facilities, and many of them
3 have no family or regular visitors who routinely check to assure
4 that they are receiving the most appropriate care to meet their
5 needs; and

6 WHEREAS, The Texas Department on Aging's ombudsman program
7 seeks to fill this void by providing advocacy efforts in behalf of
8 long-term care residents; these residents benefit greatly from
9 regular contact with the program's trained and certified volunteers
10 and often experience a renewed sense of self-esteem as a result; and

11 WHEREAS, More than 800 individuals have been specially
12 trained by the department and by the state's 28 area agencies on
13 aging, and these ombudsmen help to enhance residents' quality of
14 life and general well-being by promoting regular communication with
15 other residents, assisting in complaint resolution, and providing
16 information about long-term care facilities; and

17 WHEREAS, Thanks to advances in medical technology, Americans
18 are living longer, more productive lives, and this trend is
19 unlikely to change; as more and more individuals seek quality care
20 in their golden years, the need for ombudsman volunteers will
21 become greater, and the dedicated citizens who provide this
22 valuable service are certainly to be commended; now, therefore, be
23 it

24 RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature of the State of Texas

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1 hereby designate April 21, 2003, as Long-Term Care Ombudsman Day in
2 Texas and extend sincere thanks to the many generous individuals
3 who volunteer their time to the Texas Department on Aging's
4 ombudsman program.