By: Merritt H.R. No. 112

RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, For 32 years the Sabine Valley Center, a mental 2 health and mental retardation agency headquartered in Longview, has 3 provided the people of East Texas with vital services and support;

4 and

WHEREAS, The center assists more than 8,000 clients, including individuals with mental illness or mental retardation, people suffering from substance abuse, and children with developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Among the many forms of support offered by the agency are diagnostic, counseling, and psychiatric services, a 24-hour-a-day crisis line, residential services and youth shelter programs, and vocational training and rehabilitation; the center strives to meet the needs of its clients through community-based programs and assistance as an alternative to treatment in a state institution; and

WHEREAS, Through community education efforts, the center also endeavors to reduce the stigma of mental illness and mental retardation; one such program is its annual Destination Dignity event, an occasion designed to promote public support for, and understanding of, people with mental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, The center has created a foundation to encourage the involvement of private citizens and local businesses in supporting and strengthening its many crucial services; a volunteer program also enables area residents to contribute to the center's essential

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work; and 1

2 WHEREAS, Now in its fourth decade, the Sabine Valley Center 3 continues to pursue its mission of "helping people to achieve 4 dignity, independence, and their dreams," and it is a pleasure to recognize its manifold contributions at this time; now, therefore, 5

6 be it

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RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas Legislature hereby honor the Sabine Valley Center for its central role in promoting the well-being of East Texas citizens and extend to all those associated with the center sincere best wishes for continued success.