

**SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 300**

**WHEREAS**, Texas is estimated to have 555,400 persons with mental retardation, of which 30,000 reside in Bexar County and its surrounding areas, and mental retardation does not distinguish among those whom it affects; and

**WHEREAS**, The San Antonio State School, a 24-hour residential care facility for 298 persons with mental retardation operated by the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, celebrates its 25th anniversary in March of 2003; and

**WHEREAS**, The mission of the San Antonio State School is to help the people it serves to realize their personal goals and to offer them a variety of quality, cost-effective services; and

**WHEREAS**, The 64th Texas Legislature authorized the school in 1973 in a bill written by Senator Glenn Kothmann of San Antonio, sponsored in the House of Representatives by G. J. Sutton of San Antonio, and signed by Governor Dolph Briscoe; and

**WHEREAS**, In 1977, the legislature appropriated \$27.1 million to renovate 10 unused buildings of the San Antonio State Chest Hospital and to operate the San Antonio State School for three years; and

**WHEREAS**, On March 27, 1978, Representative Bob Vale welcomed 120 persons from Austin State School and Travis State School to their new home in San Antonio; and

**WHEREAS**, In 1979, the renovation of all ten buildings was completed, providing space for 440 residents, many of whom were

coming home to Bexar County and others who were on a waiting list of 640 persons from the South Texas area; and

**WHEREAS**, Today, the San Antonio State School is a partnership of consumers, family members, policymakers, and service providers who work together to create options and provide quality services to ensure that residents have the opportunity to function to their fullest capacity; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas recognize March 27, 2003, as the 25th anniversary of the San Antonio State School and urge the citizens of this community to join together in promoting an awareness of mental retardation and an understanding of the important role the San Antonio State School has in the lives of those it serves.

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 5, 2003.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate