

**SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 691**

**WHEREAS**, Pioneer Day is being celebrated on April 29, 2003, and this occasion provides a fitting opportunity to honor the SBC Pioneers in Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, A group of more than 19,000 active and 18,000 retired employees who live and work throughout the Lone Star State, the SBC Pioneers in Texas, along with their Pioneer Partners, volunteer their time and talents to assist in education, social, and environmental programs; and

**WHEREAS**, In 2002, through its Texas Pride and South Texas chapters, the SBC Pioneers provided some 4.2 million hours of volunteer time to Texas communities, a value of more than \$64 million; and

**WHEREAS**, The SBC Pioneers can be found working with students in classrooms, feeding the needy, building a playground, organizing a beep-baseball game for the blind, caring for infants born with AIDS, or comforting the sick and elderly in nursing homes; and

**WHEREAS**, Last year, the Pioneers refurbished more than 4,000 tape machines in the Talking Book Program and sewed some 4,000 stuffed teddy bears for Children in Crisis as well as 800 heart pillows for hospitalized patients; Pioneers also have taught thousands of children to correctly use 9-1-1, have conducted more than 350 Junior Achievement classes, and have built 10 ramps for disabled people in public parks; and

**WHEREAS**, In an effort to promote literacy, Pioneers have provided personalized readers to kindergarten students;

volunteers have built a model tropical rainforest in a Corpus Christi elementary school and created a model Internet Safety Training Program in Austin; and

**WHEREAS**, Among their many other achievements are the renovation and furnishing of a halfway house for women in San Antonio, the development of an attendance program for elementary students in West Texas, and the hosting of a Babies Day Program in Dallas for disabled children and their parents; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby recognize April 29, 2003, as Pioneer Day in Texas and commend the SBC Pioneers for their tireless efforts in promoting the spirit of volunteerism throughout Texas.

Wentworth

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 29, 2003.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate