

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, For nearly three decades, Mercy Ships, a global
2 charity, has come to the aid of people in need by maintaining a
3 fleet of hospital ships in developing nations; and

4 WHEREAS, Mercy Ships was founded in 1978 by Don and Deyon
5 Stephens of Garden Valley when they purchased the *Anastasis* and set
6 to transform it from a passenger ship to a floating hospital; today,
7 following the tenets of their spiritual beliefs, they have expanded
8 the charity to include three ships, which all provide medical
9 treatment for people throughout the world; and

10 WHEREAS, In its benevolent quest, the organization has served
11 more than 5.5 million people, delivered more than \$21 million in
12 medical equipment, hospital supplies, and medicines, and completed
13 nearly 350 construction and agriculture projects, including
14 schools, clinics, and orphanages; the charity relies on 850 staff
15 members and more than 1,600 volunteers to carry out its mission; and

16 WHEREAS, The founders, staff, and volunteers of Mercy Ships
17 have made an indelible impact on the fight for global health; their
18 tireless work in behalf of individuals in need is truly an
19 inspiration, and it is a pleasure to honor their achievements at
20 this time; now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
22 Legislature hereby commend Mercy Ships for bringing hope and
23 healing to developing countries and extend to Don and Deyon
24 Stephens and all those associated with this remarkable organization

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1 sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

2 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
3 prepared for the staff and volunteers as an expression of high
4 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.

Flynn

Craddick	Geren	Menendez
Allen of Harris	Giddings	Merritt
Allen of Dallas	Gonzales	Miller
Alonzo	Gonzalez Toureilles	Moreno of Harris
Anchia	Goodman	Moreno of El Paso
Anderson	Goolsby	Morrison
Bailey	Griggs	Mowery
Baxter	Grusendorf	Naishtat
Berman	Guillen	Nixon
Blake	Haggerty	Noriega
Bohac	Hamilton	Oliveira
Bonnen	Hamric	Olivo
Branch	Hardcastle	Orr
Brown of Kaufman	Harper-Brown	Otto
Brown of Brazos	Hartnett	Paxton
Burnam	Hegar	Pena
Callegari	Herrero	Phillips
Campbell	Hilderbran	Pickett
Casteel	Hill	Pitts
Castro	Hochberg	Puente
Chavez	Hodge	Quintanilla
Chisum	Homer	Raymond
Coleman	Hope	Reyna
Cook of Navarro	Hopson	Riddle
Cook of Colorado	Howard	Ritter
Corte	Hughes	Rodriguez
Crabb	Hunter	Rose
Crownover	Hupp	Seaman
Davis of Harris	Isett	Smith of Tarrant
Davis of Dallas	Jackson	Smith of Harris
Dawson	Jones of Lubbock	Smithee
Delisi	Jones of Dallas	Solis
Denny	Keel	Solomons
Deshotel	Keffer of Dallas	Strama
Driver	Keffer of Eastland	Straus
Dukes	King of Parker	Swinford
Dunnam	King of Zavala	Talton
Dutton	Kolkhorst	Taylor
Edwards	Krusee	Thompson
Eiland	Kuempel	Truitt
Eissler	Laney	Turner
Elkins	Laubenberg	Uresti
Escobar	Leibowitz	Van Arsdale
Farabee	Luna	Veasey
Farrar	Madden	Villarreal
Flores	Martinez	Vo
Flynn	Martinez Fischer	West
Frost	McCall	Wong
Gallego	McClendon	Woolley
Gattis	McReynolds	Zedler

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 837 was adopted by the House on March 21, 2005, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House