

By: Flynn

H.R. No. 837

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

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.