By: Gonzales

H.R. No. 1169

## RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Belinda Cowan is retiring from her position as 2 executive director of the McAllen Boys & Girls Club on April 7, 3 2005, bringing to a close an exceptional career with the 4 organization that has spanned more than 10 years; and

5 WHEREAS, Under her exceptional leadership, the annual budget has grown from \$500,000 to \$1.5 million, and the number of children 6 served by the club has more than tripled, increasing from 2,000 to 7 7,400; moreover, she has ably overseen the organization's 63 8 diversified programs four units, 9 and including the new 35,000-square-foot Glen E. and Rita K. Roney Center; and 10

WHEREAS, Before her tenure with the Boys & Girls Club, Ms. Cowan enjoyed a 20-year career with the McAllen Police Department; the city's first female officer and sergeant, she spearheaded a host of youth-oriented initiatives, including the city's D.A.R.E. and Officer Friendly programs and Teen Court; and

16 WHEREAS, In recognition of the indelible mark she has left on 17 the community, March 28 was named a special day in her honor by the 18 McAllen City Commission; Belinda Cowan may indeed reflect with 19 pride on her successful career working in behalf of children, and 20 with plans to eventually return to employment involving service to 21 others, she will undoubtedly continue to benefit her city for years 22 to come; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
Legislature hereby congratulate Belinda Cowan on her retirement as

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executive director of the McAllen Boys & Girls Club and extend to
her sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further
RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
prepared for Ms. Cowan as an expression of high regard by the Texas

5 House of Representatives.