H.R. No. 1397

RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Municipal courts provide citizens of the Lone Star 2 State a local forum where questions of law and fact can be resolved 3 with respect to alleged violations of state law and transgressions 4 against municipal ordinances; and

5 WHEREAS, Because municipal courts are the courts most 6 routinely experienced by Texans, both adults and juveniles, they 7 could be said to constitute the arm of government that is closest to 8 the greatest number of people; and

9 WHEREAS, Judges of the municipal courts function also as 10 magistrates for the State of Texas, and in doing so perform 11 functions including issuing search and arrest warrants, giving 12 magistrate warnings, and setting bail for offenses ranging from 13 petty theft to murder; and

WHEREAS, Pledging to be impartial and conform to the standards set by the Canons of Judicial Conduct, the estimated 5,000 municipal court judges and court support personnel work diligently to ensure the fair administration of justice while upholding the rigorous standards of professionalism; and

WHEREAS, Municipal judges, clerks, court administrators, bailiffs, and warrant officers continually strive to improve the administration of justice through participation in judicial education programs, seminars, workshops, and the annual meetings of their state and local professional organizations; and

24 WHEREAS, It is most appropriate to recognize the

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H.R. No. 1397

accomplishments of the municipal courts in Texas and salute their critical role in preserving public safety, protecting the quality of life in Texas communities, and deterring future criminal behavior; now, therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas 6 Legislature hereby recognize October 31-November 4, 2005, and 7 November 6-10, 2006, as Municipal Courts Week and take special note 8 of the important work performed by all those associated with the 9 state's municipal courts.

Solomons

H.R. No. 1397

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1397 was adopted by the House on May 13, 2005, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House