

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 490

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas joins citizens across the state in recognizing March of 2005 as Mental Retardation Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 600,000 Texans have mental retardation, and one out of every 10 American families is directly affected by mental retardation; it cuts across the lines of race, education and social and economic background; and

WHEREAS, Persons with mental retardation face numerous challenges in acquiring quality and appropriate health care in their communities; since mental retardation affects each individual differently, families must find a community program and support system that best meets the needs of the individual with mental retardation; and

WHEREAS, People in communities should be educated about the abilities and needs of people with mental retardation, as the condition is often wrongly confused with mental illness; and

WHEREAS, People with mental retardation need to be able to lead the lives they choose and have a good quality of life; public education and awareness are the keys to their ability to attain these basic human rights; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, hereby designate March as Mental Retardation Awareness Month; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared as a tribute to this event.

Zaffirini

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 30, 2005.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate